

Energy research Centre of the Netherlands

Scale-up of the MILENA biomass gasification process for the production of Bio-SNG

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ECN: Energy for the Future



Largest Dutch R&D institute in the field of energy; independent and committed (ECN in IPCC)

"Missing link" between fundamental academic research and market application

Ambition: cutting edge R&D that influences the European transition to a sustainable energy system



R&D units



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Why Bio-SNG?

- Natural gas is the main primary source of energy in the Netherlands and fossil natural gas reserves are in decline -> renewable alternative required.
- Bio-SNG has many applications: Heat and electricity production, feedstock for chemical industry and recently as a transport fuel.
- Efficiency from biomass (wood) to fuel is significantly higher for Bio-SNG than Bio-FT (70% compared to <50%).
- Beyond CO₂ neutral, including sequestration of CO₂ the process becomes CO₂ negative



PRODUCING BIO-SNG two ways

	BIOGAS	Bio-SNG
technology:	digestion	gasification
status:	commercially available	in development
scale:	small (<1 MW)	large (>100 MW)
fuel:	digestable biomass	dry biomass (waste wood)
potential:	limited (< 60 PJ in NL)	large

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ECN Bio-SNG production process





Calculated overall efficiencies to Bio-SNG





BEYOND CO₂ NEUTRAL *BioSNG <u>with</u> CO₂ storage*



CO_2 emission: 100 → -70 170% CO_2 emission reduction

www.ecn.nl



Lab scale Bio-SNG installation

First integrated tests in 2006



MILENA	OLGA	Methanation
gasification	Gas cleaning	

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Experimental lab-scale results (Nov 2008)







Results from lab-scale testing

- Gasifier is running reliable, gas composition according expectations.
- Different biomass fuels are tested. Wood is most promising fuel, but other biomasses can be used as well.
- Gas cleaning is tested.
- Suitable methanation catalysts are selected and tested, with good results.
- Process ready for long duration tests and scaleup.



Construction of MILENA gasifier pilot plant





MILENA pilot plant

- Thermal input 160 kg/h (800 kW HHV)
- Design fuel dry wood
- Gasifier / Riser diameter: 0.2 m
- Combustor diameter: 0.8 m
- Total height: 8 m





First pilot scale results





Present Bio-SNG activities

- The lab-scale installation is modified to make automated tests possible.
- Duration tests are prepared to test the selected catalysts.
- Duration test MILENA pilot gasifier connected to OLGA pilot plant at the beginning of 2009



Future plans of the HVC and ECN





MORE INFORMATION

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Publications: <u>www.ecn.nl/publications</u> MILENA information: <u>www.milenatechnology.com</u> Bio-SNG / Bio-CNG: <u>www.biosng.com</u>