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PRESS RELEASE

The World's Largest Event for the Defossilisation of Chemicals and Materials

The Renewable Materials Conference will take place from 11-13 June 2024 in Siegburg/Cologne (Germany) and online.

Hürth (Germany), 8 May 2024: The conference is the number one meeting point for industry, academia, investors and policy makers for the defossilisation of chemicals and materials via substitution of fossil carbon by biomass, CCU and recycling. Six weeks before the event, more than 200 participants have already registered and 500 to 600 are expected.

Decarbonisation and Defossilisation

What is the difference? Decarbonisation relates to the energy and fuel sector and means replacing carbon-based fuels with electricity and hydrogen. Often, the term is used to refer to fossil CO₂ emissions, meaning that biofuels have also become part of the decarbonisation strategy.

The situation is very different in the chemicals and materials sector. Here, most intermediates and products contain embedded carbon – and are even based on carbon – which can never be replaced by anything else. In fact, this sector requires a constant and even increasing demand for carbon. It is not the chemicals and materials that can be decarbonised, only the associated process energy can. But they can be defossilised if the carbon source is not fossil carbon from the ground, i.e. not crude oil, natural gas or coal.

Defossilisation is the key point of the conference, which will focus on the three alternatives to fossil carbon from the ground: biomass, CO₂ utilisation and recycling. The unique concept of showcasing all renewable material solutions at one event hits the nail on the head and covers the entire value chain of the renewable carbon economy.

And there is a lot to do! Today, the global chemicals and plastics industry uses 550 million tonnes of embedded carbon in its products, and this amount will double by 2050. Today, 88% of this carbon comes from fossil sources, mainly oil, 8% from biomass, and only 4% from recycling and 0.04% from CCU. Numerous innovations and investments are required to increase the share of the three renewable carbon sources to almost 100%. What are the visions and strategies of industry and policy to achieve a fossil-free chemicals and materials industry?

The conference

Over three days, top speakers from industry, academia and politics will present and discuss the latest developments in strategy, technology, innovation, policy and market trends to an international audience of experts in 80 presentations, 20 panel discussions and more than ten workshops. The final program is now set and six innovations have been nominated for the award “Renewable Material of the Year 2024”. Companies, associations and institutes are still invited to run a workshop and take part in the exhibition.

“The Renewable Materials Conference (RMC) serves as a vital platform for collaboration and knowledge exchange in the renewable materials sector,” says Michael Carus, CEO nova-Institute, and organiser of the RMC. *“Our comprehensive approach covers the entire value chain, from alternative carbon feedstocks, the chemical industry, the materials sector, product manufacturers to brand owners and investors, making the RMC the ultimate platform for networking and partnering in the new renewable carbon economy.”*

Furthermore, the conference will cover a wide range of concepts and technologies: sustainable carbon cycles, renewable refineries, and chemical recycling as well as new process technologies, i.e. technologies for the production of renewable chemicals, building blocks, polymers, plastics and fine chemicals based on renewable carbon.

Please find all information on the conference here: <https://renewable-materials.eu>

Thanks to RMC Sponsors

The nova-Institute would like to thank UPM Biochemicals (FI) for supporting the conference as Platin Sponsor, iff (US), NESTE (FI), Sugar Energy (CN), TÜV Austria Belgium (BE), Zhongke Guosheng Technology (CN) as Gold Sponsor, as well as Alfalaval (SE), B4Plastics (BE), REDcert (DE), Photanol BV (NL) and Renolit Healthcare (DE), TotalEnergies Corbion (NL) who support the event as Silver Sponsors. The innovation award “Renewable Material of the Year 2024” is sponsored by Covestro (DE).

Partners

The Renewable Materials Conference is supported by industry and trade associations, non-profit organisations, research institutions and interest groups that are thematically linked to the conference: AVK – Federation of Reinforced Plastics (DE), BCNP Consultants (DE), B4C – Bioeconomy For Change (FR), bündnis mikroplastikfrei (AT), C.A.R.M.E.N. (DE), ChemCologne (DE), Chemie-Cluster Bayern (DE), CLIB – Cluster industrielle Biotechnologie (DE), CO₂Value Europe (EU), CSCP – Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production (DE), Enterprise Europe Network – Zenit (DE), European Bioplastics (EU), FNR – Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe (DE), GO!PHA – Global Organization for PHA (International), IBB – Industrielle Biotechnologie Bayern Netzwerk (DE), ITA – Institut für Textiltechnik der RWTH Aachen (DE), kunststoffland NRW (DE), ÖGUT – Österreichische Gesellschaft für Umwelt und Technik (AT), Plastics Europe (DE) und Renewable Carbon Initiative (International).

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nova-Institut GmbH has been working in the field of sustainability since the mid-1990s and focuses today primarily on the topic of renewable carbon cycles (recycling, bioeconomy and CO₂ utilisation/CCU).

As an independent research institute, **nova** supports in particular customers in chemical, plastics and materials industries with the transformation from fossil to renewable carbon from biomass, direct CO₂ utilisation and recycling.

Both in the accompanying research of international innovation projects and in individual, scientifically based management consulting, a multidisciplinary team of scientists at **nova** deals with the entire range of topics from renewable raw materials, technologies and markets, economics, political framework conditions, life cycle assessments and sustainability to communication, target groups and strategy development.

50 experts from various disciplines are working together on the defossilisation of the industry and for a climate neutral future. More information at: nova-institute.eu – renewable-carbon.eu

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