



## Welcome Address given at the grand opening of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International BtL-congress

by  
**Dr Andreas Schütte**  
Managing Director of the  
**Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe e.V.**  
**(FNR)**

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## Introduction

In Europe transportation fuels are based nearly solely on crude oil. This leads to certain disadvantages:

- Green house gas emissions from fossil carbon
- Import risks due to small domestic production
- Fossil resources are generally limited

Biofuels as an alternative to fossil based fuels.

Actions taken:

- National German transportation fuel strategy
- EU biofuel directive and EU biomass action plan



## BtL as a specific topic

What are Biomass-to-Liquid(BtL) fuels?  
Synthetic Hydrocarbons to be used as fuels, which are produced from biomass through a synthesis gas made by gasification

Why BtL?

- could be produced from a broad range of agricultural and silvicultural biomass
- has a high potential to reduce green house gas emissions caused by transportation fuels
- could be adapted to comply with existing standardisation of gasoline (EN 228) and diesel (EN 590)
- flexible production process which is able to meet future engine requirements



## Development since the 1<sup>st</sup> BtL Congress

Since the 1<sup>st</sup> BtL Congress back in November 2004 there was a vivid development regarding BtL:

- The general public has recognized BtL fuels as a promising biofuel
- available acreage and its efficient utilisation are hotly discussed today
- BtL technologies are developing steadily and new technical solutions are available
- Germany's national energy taxation has been changed dramatically
- BtL became a major topic within the European Biofuel Strategy (Biomass action plan, TP Biofuels)



## Current issues related to BtL

- adapted energy crops through intelligent plant breeding
- ecological balanced production systems for agriculture and forestry
- dedicated logistic systems for biofuel supply
- highly efficient gasification processes and gas treatment
- flexible and efficient hydrocarbon synthesis from biosyngas
- the position of BtL with the future energy system
- securing a suitable political and legal framework



## Strategic issues

The development of BtL processes must result in a sustainable technology.  
Therefore the whole process chain from biomass production to the fuel processing has to be considered.

### Example:

Regarding ecological parameters biomass processing and fuel treatment (Hydrogen consumption) do have a severe influence on the environmental impact of a BtL process

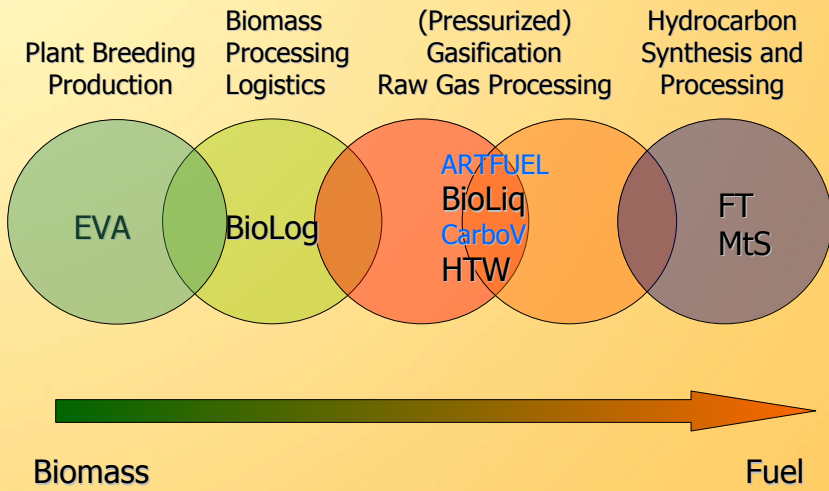
An integrated approach for R&D in the field of BtL is recommended.

The resulting R&D strategy pursued by the FNR is describe in a lecture tomorrow



## Integrated approach to BtL

„From field to tank“



Fachagentur Nachwachsende  
Rohstoffe e.V.  
Hofplatz 1  
82296 Gaißow  
Tel. 03843/6930-0  
Fax 03843/6930-102  
www.fnr.de  
www.nachwachsende-rohstoffe.de



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