

Olmix presents "Morgane", the first green refinery of its kind in Europe

For the first time, a "green chemistry" facility will be capable of combining animal and plant waste with green algae and transforming them into renewable energy and natural compounds for use in agriculture.

The Morgane pilot site will be located at Ploërmel (in the Morbihan county) in the heart of Brittany, the Olmix group's corporate home and a region which has significant raw materials resources. Morgane will offer a next-generation response to two of the area's major environmental problems: nitrate pollution and coastal green algal blooms.

The Morgane initiative is already backed by leading organisations: France's state-owned "Caisse des Dépôts" savings bank, the Ploërmel municipal community, a number of agricultural cooperatives and the "Centre d'Enseignement Agricole de la Touche" agricultural college. The level of commitment from these stakeholders testifies to the convergence of public/private-sectors interests in the deployment of this sustainable development project.

A sample application:

At the 28th Automobile Tour of Brittany (May 10th-12th, 2008), Olmix showcased the world's first car to run on green algae-derived biogas.

Olmix has developed a unique process called Morgane, which enables the production of "green energy" by combining green algae and animal & plant waste.

The resulting methane opens up a range of applications, including the replacement of fossil fuels in road transport by an eco-friendly natural gas without the need to divert raw materials or cereals destined for food use.

The Morgane process also provides an eco-friendly solution to the environmental problems represented by nitrate pollution and the green algal growth along the Brittany coastline.

By launching Morgane, Olmix is taking an additional step forward in its commitment to sustainable development. As a specialist in high-technology innovations for generating environmentally-friendly products, Olmix develops and manufactures natural additives and markets them to industrial enterprises worldwide as replacements for synthetic compounds.

Olmix was founded in 1995 and listed on the Paris stock exchange's open market in 2005. The company is a leader in offering true solutions for sustainable development. Its ecoresource-based innovations have already generated products which are distributed in more than 80 countries worldwide. Since its incorporation, the company's growth rate has averaged 20% a year. In 2006/2007, Olmix, posted revenues of €52 million.

About Olmix:

Founded in 1995 by Hervé Balusson, Olmix specializes in "green chemistry". It has annual revenues of €52 million, employs 250 staff, operates 7 industrial units in Europe and is represented in over 80 countries worldwide.