## Vienna University of Technology



Biomassevergasung und Gasverwertung

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Highlights der Bioenergieforschung Nationale und Internationale Ergebnisse zu den IEA Schwerpunkten

28. April 2009





- IEA Bioenergy Task33 Thermal gasification of Biomass
- Austrian research in the area of advanced gasification

## **IEA Bioenergy Task 33**



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- The objectives of Task 33 are to review and exchange information on biomass gasification (BMG) research, development, demonstration, and commercialization
- Participating countries (12): Austria, Canada, Denmark, European Commission, Finland, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland, and the USA
- Task Leader: Dr. Suresh P. Babu, Gas Technology Institute, Des Plaines, IL., USA.
- Actual Triennium is from 2007-2009, Proposal for next Triennium 2010-2012 is delivered to ExCo
- More details at http://www.ieatask33.org



Working group: Zero Emission Energy Technology

#### Definition:

Gasification is a process by which either a solid or liquid carbonaceous material, containing mostly chemically bound carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, and a variety of inorganic and organic constituents, is reacted with air, oxygen, and/or steam. The reactions provide sufficient exothermic energy to produce a primary gaseous product containing mostly CO,  $H_2$ ,  $CO_2$ ,  $H_2O(g)$ , and light hydrocarbons laced with volatile and condensable organic and inorganic compounds.

Main reactions: devolatlisation:

Boudouard-reaction Heterogenous water gas shift Homogenous water gas shift Methanation C,  $CH_4$ , CO,  $CO_2$ ,  $H_2$ ,  $H_2O$ C +  $CO2 \leftrightarrow 2 CO$  $\Delta H = 159,9 \text{ kJ/mol}$ C +  $H2O \leftrightarrow CO + H2$  $\Delta H = 118,5 \text{ kJ/mol}$ CO +  $H2O \leftrightarrow CO2 + H2$  $\Delta H = -40,9 \text{ kJ/mol}$ C+  $2H2 \leftrightarrow CH4$  $\Delta H = -87,5 \text{ kJ/mol}$ 

## **Overview on usage**



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## **Efficiencies for electricity**



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## Learning curve



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## Wind Power



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Costs pr. kWh reduced to <sup>1</sup>⁄<sub>4</sub> (by 75 %) from 1973 to 2003

## **Classification of Gasifiers**



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Gasifiers can be classified as:

according to the gasification agent

- air-blown gasifiers
- oxygen gasifiers
- steam gasifiers

according to heat for gasification:

- autothermal gasifiers
- allothermal gasifiers

according to the design of fuel bed:

- fixed bed
- fluidised bed
- entrained flow gasifiers
- staged gasifiers

## **Gasification in Austria**



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- Research groups:
  - Graz University of Technology Institute of Thermal Engineering
  - Graz University of Technology Institute for Apparatus Design, Particle Technology and Combustion Technology
  - Joanneum Research Graz Department of Energy Research
  - Vienna, University of Technology, Institute of Chemical Engineering
  - FJ-BLT Wieselburg (HBLFA)
  - Bioenergy 2020+ (Austrian Bioenergy Centre, Renet Austria)
- Implementation:
  - Biomass CHP Güssing
  - BioSNG Demonstration
  - Pyrotherm CHP Güssing
  - Biomass CHP Oberwart

## Heat Pipe Refomer (TU Graz)



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# Dual fluidised bed steam gasification



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## **CHP-PLANT GÜSSING**



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# Gas Composition (after gas cleaning)



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Main Components		
H <sub>2</sub>	%	35-45
СО	%	22-25
CH₄	%	~10
CO <sub>2</sub>	%	20-25
Minor Components		
	%	2-3
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	%	~0.5
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	%	~0,4
<b>O</b> <sub>2</sub>	%	< 0,1
N <sub>2</sub>	%	1-3
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	g/m³	~8
C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	g/m³	~0,5
C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	g/m³	~2
TARS	mg/m°	20-30

Possible poisons			
H <sub>2</sub> S	mgS/Nm³	~200	
Mercaptans	mgS/Nm³	~30	
Thiophens	mgS/Nm³	~7	
HCI	ppm	~3	
NH3	ppm	500-1000	
Dust	mg/Nm³	< 20	

 $H_2:CO = from 1.5:1 to 2:1$ 



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## **Renewable liquid fuels**

## **Fischer-Tropsch Syntheses**

# BIOMASS-TO-FISCHER-TROPSCH

### Theorie of FT Synthesis Anderson Schulz Flory distribution by weight



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$$Log(W_n / n) = n \log \alpha + const.$$



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### **Renewable natural gas**

## Synthetic natural gas (BioSNG)

# BIOMASS-TO-SYNTHETIC-NATURAL-GAS

## Schema BioSNG demonstration



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## **Current Status**



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- Participation in IEA Bioenergy Task33 is very important for know how transfer in the area of biomass gasification
- There is successful research and demonstration in Austria
  - Biomass CHP Güssing with
    - Demonstration for production of BioSNG
    - Research in 2<sup>nd</sup> generation liquid biofuels (Fischer Tropsch synthesis)
  - Research on heat pipe reforming at TU Graz
  - Implementation of fixed bed gasifiers, like Pyroforce
- Gasification gives high potential for production of electricity, district heat, biofuels and chemicals
  - BioSNG, experiments of demonstration plant are ongoing
  - BioFiT, research ongoing, ready for scale up