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Netherlands

Bio-Fuels

Dutch company announces plans for producing second generation biofuels

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Report Highlights: The Dutch company Royal Nedalco announced plans to build a second-generation biofuel plant with an annual production capacity of 200 million liters of bioethanol.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
The Hague [NL1]
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On March 1, 2007, the Dutch company Royal Nedalco announced plans to build a second-generation bioethanol plant in the Dutch town of Sas van Gent. From the end of 2008, it will be capable of producing annually 200 million liters of bioethanol. According Nedalco, it will be one of the first companies in the world to achieve second-generation biofuel production on an industrial scale.

The new plant will use a patented yeast developed by Nedalco that can convert xylose (a C5 monosaccharide) into bioethanol. Previously Nedalco could only convert the C6 monosaccharides into ethanol. The feedstock containing xylose will be purchased from the domestic or the world market. The main share of the feedstock for the plant will probably be lignocellulosic waste products from the food processing industry.

An investment of about Euro 150 million is needed to build the biofuel production facility. The Dutch government has made available Euro 60 million for the promotion of innovations and technological developments such as those at Nedalco. Nedalco is therefore confident that the Dutch government will actively support this investment.

In a related announcement, Nedalco announced an agreement to license technology to Mascoma Corp., a market leader in the United States in the field of lignocellulosic ethanol commercialization, and to explore collaborative research efforts between the companies. Nedalco has previously concluded agreements with the American companies SunOpta Inc., a specialist in biomass pretreatment, and Dyadic, a leading enzymes business.

The press release for the Nedalco project is found at: <http://www.nedalco.com>