

# **US DOE/USDA Biomass Technical Advisory Committee**



**Tim Eggeman, Ph.D., P.E.  
Chief Technology Officer, Founder  
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# Company History

- Founded in 2002
- Series A (\$6MM) in 2006
  - Led by MDV and Firelake Capital
  - Proved technology at lab scale
- Series B (\$34MM) in 2008
  - Co-led by Globespan and PrairieGold
  - Valero Energy Corporation
  - Money raised for demo plant
- Current Status
  - Integrated pilot is underway
  - US DOE grant \$25MM
  - Leveraging strategics for 1<sup>st</sup> commercial



# Dedicated Energy Farms

- ZeaChem process is feedstock agnostic
  - Hardwood, softwood, grasses, ag residues
- Dedicated sustainable energy crops
  - **Geographic diversity, "Grow where we go"**
- Contract with GreenWood Resources
  - Supply high yield hybrid poplar feedstock
- Benefits
  - Efficient harvesting, cost effective
  - **"Store on the stump"**
  - Integrate energy crop + biorefinery = minimal footprint, low CO<sub>2</sub>



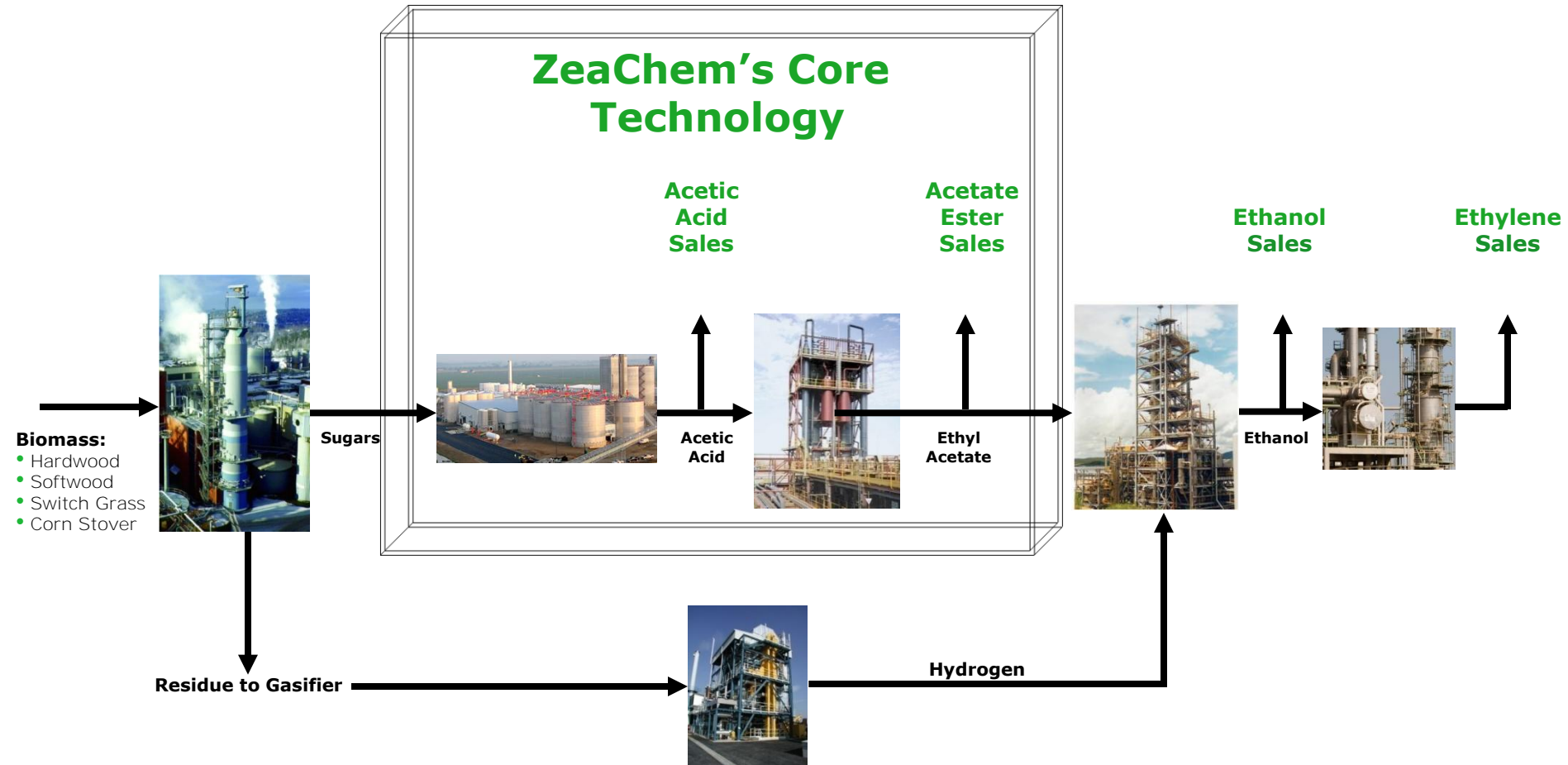


# Efficient Harvesting

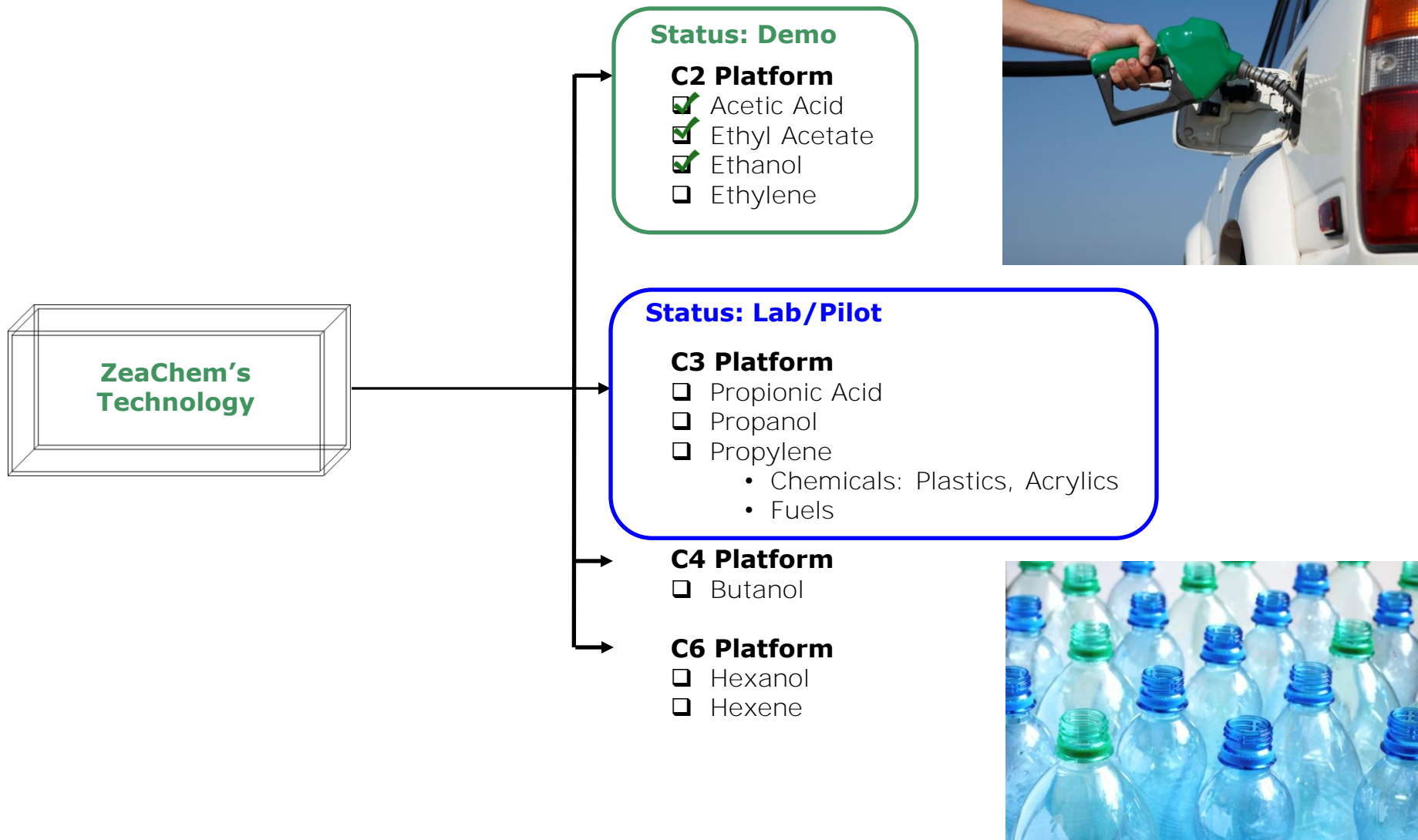


Additional Video Footage: [http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/news/b\\_roll\\_rd.cfm](http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/news/b_roll_rd.cfm)

# ZeaChem C<sub>2</sub> Platform



# Other Platforms – Fuels and Chemicals





# ZeaChem Technology Deployment

Lab → Pilot → Demo



## Milestones:

- Proven at lab
- Raised \$6MM for non-integrated pilot

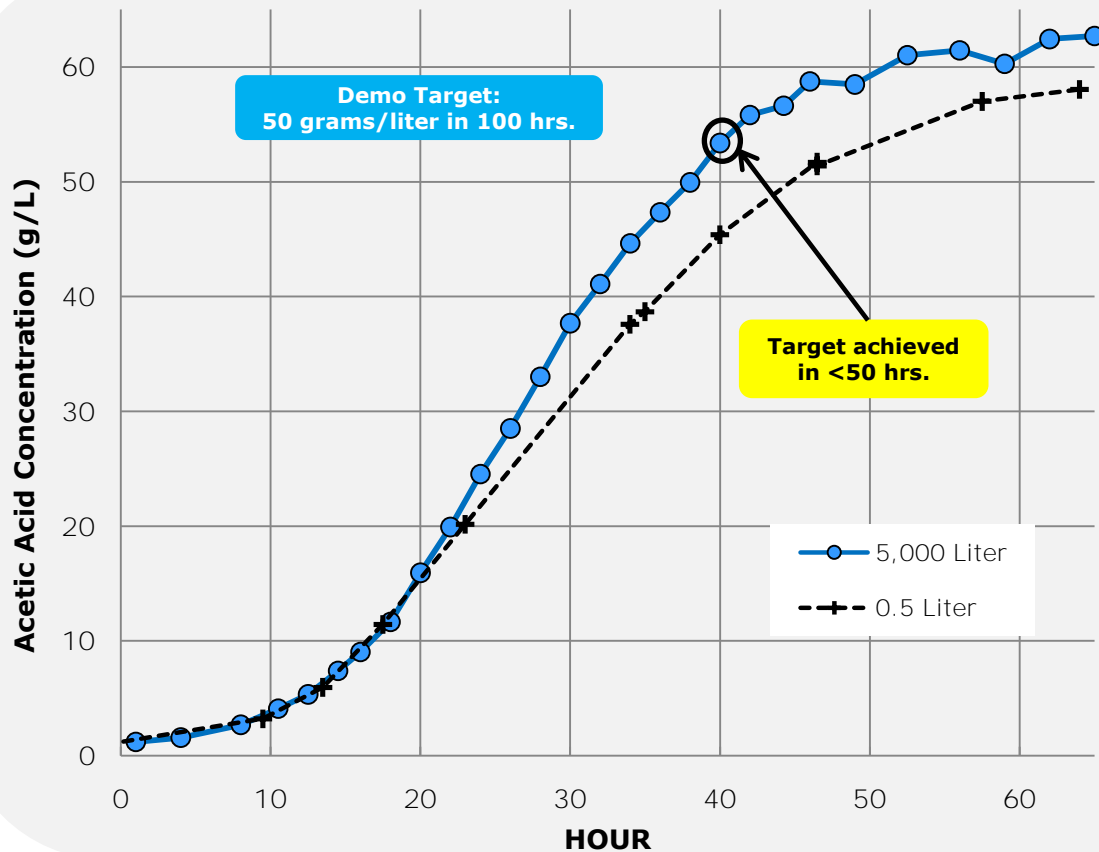
## Milestones:

- Proven at non-integrated pilot
- Successfully fermented mixed sugars and hydrolyzates
- Raised \$34MM to support integrated pilot/demo

## Milestones:

- Constructed announced 11/09
- 10,000x fermentation scale-up met and exceeded targets
- Completed downstream conversion to commercial grade: glacial acetic acid, ethyl acetate, and ethanol

# Demonstrated Scale-up Success



*Scale-up*  
**Control**

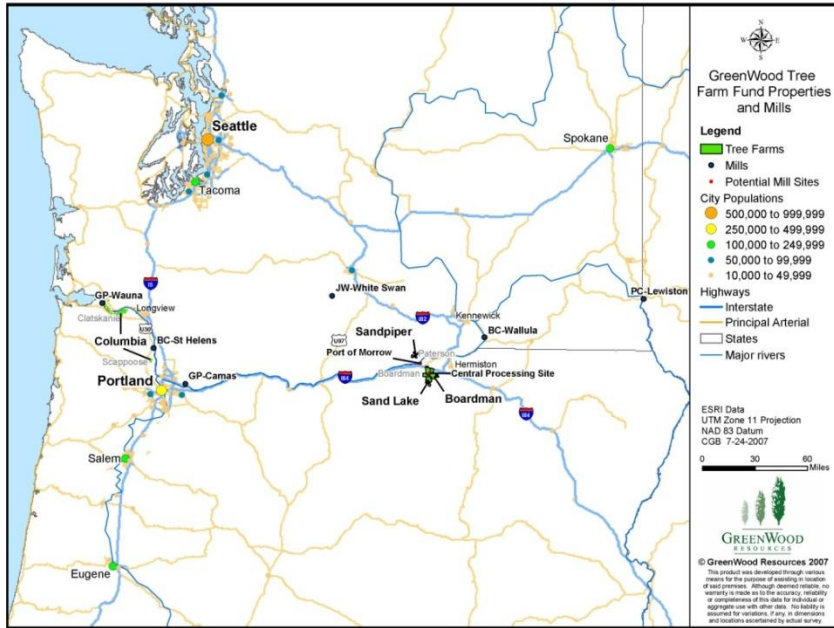


- 10,000x Scale-up
- Repeated numerous times

- Multiple vendor trials
- Glacial Acetic Acid, 99+% pure



# Integrated Biorefinery: Boardman, OR



Schematic of future facility

Photo courtesy of Matt Kegl. Diagram supplied by Burns & McDonnell

- Supported by \$25MM US DOE ARRA grant
- 250,000 GPY capacity
- Produce ethyl acetate and cellulosic ethanol
- Hybrid poplar + others feedstocks
- 75 Construction jobs, 25 Operating jobs



# R&D Barriers & Challenges of Project

- R&D Barriers Addressed
  - Process Integration: *Experimental/Simulation program is successful to date, but will it all work together?*
  - Maintain Technical Trajectory:

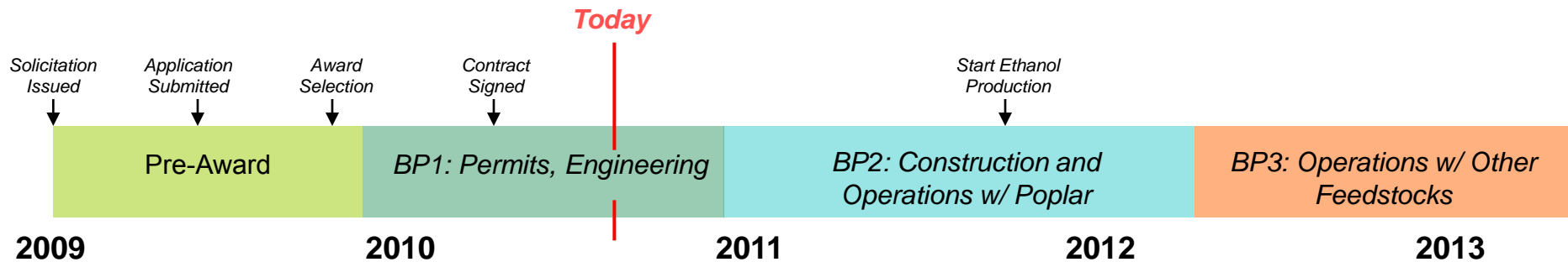
	<b><i>Integrated Pilot</i></b>	<b><i>1<sup>st</sup> Commercial</i></b>	<b><i>N<sup>th</sup> Commercial</i></b>
<b><i>Factory Yield, gal EtOH/BDT</i></b>	<b><i>80</i></b>	<b><i>110</i></b>	<b><i>135</i></b>

- Challenges
  - Feedstock Flexibility: *Broadens commercial opportunities*
  - Hydrogen Supply: *Gasification of lignin residues vs. SMR w/ lignin sales*



# Project and Commercial Timelines

- Integrated plant will begin production of ethanol in 2011



- Follow-on 1<sup>st</sup> Commercial facility of 25-50 Million GPY
  - Feedstock: Hybrid Poplar, Agriculture Residues
  - Products: Ethanol plus other C2 products
  - Financing: Mix of equity and debt with loan guarantee



# Policies to Spur Commercialization

- Investment Tax Credit in lieu of Producer Tax Credit for advanced biofuels
  - Extend policy to beyond 2014
  - Grants in lieu of tax credits
- Recognize positive impact of short rotation woody biomass to achieve RFS2
  - Ability to plant poplars on marginal agriculture land, reclamation lands, etc.
- Access to loan guarantees
  - USDA: N/A for bio-based chemicals
  - DOE: Implement for biorefineries (fuels and chemicals)



# Thank you

Tim Eggeman

[time@zeachem.com](mailto:time@zeachem.com)

(303) 248-7774