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The Recycling Times

HADCO Group's Recycling Division Monthly E-Newsletter



Image Credit: <u>International Energy Agency</u>

Renewable Energy: The Road to Decarbonisation could be Powered by Plants

We don't need to look far to see the effects of global warming. It can be felt right on our doorstep as we continue to experience record-breaking temperatures across the Caribbean – it leaves the question...what can be done?

For many years the United Nations has called for the <u>phasing out of fossil fuels</u> and the investment in renewable energy alternatives such as wind, solar, hydrogen and biofuels. Through the decarbonisation of industrial processes, we can cut global carbon emissions and hopefully slow the inevitable increase of global temperatures by at least 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Since 2009, Ecoimpact has been contributing towards decarbonizing Trinidad and Tobago by turning waste vegetable oil into feedstock for biofuel.

In this issue of our Recycling Times, we will briefly highlight the role of HADCO's Recycling Division within the global supply chain of biofuel production through the processing and export of our nation's waste vegetable oil (WVO) to international biofuel manufacturers in Asia, Europe and the United States.

"DECARBONISING **OUR COUNTRY'S** DEPENDENCE ON **FOSSIL FUELS** WILL TAKE TIME. THAT'S WHY HADCO'S RECYCLING **DIVISION IS STAYING AHEAD** OF THE CURVE BY **SUPPLYING BIODIESEL FEEDSTOCK** TO INTERNATIONAL **MANUFACTURERS** TO AID IN THE RENEWABLE **ENERGY** TRANSITION."

> Kevin Whiteman -Managing Director, Recycling Division, HADCO Group







Understanding Biofuels

There are two main types of biofuels:

Bioethanol, which is often made from corn, sugarcane, switch grass, etc.

Biodiesel, which is produced from vegetable oils such as soybean oil, sunflower oil, palm oil, etc.



Simplified production cycle of biofuels *Image Credit: <u>Bio Circular News</u>*

Ecoimpact Co. Ltd and Biodiesel Feedstock

Ecoimpact specialises in the collection, filtration and export of biodiesel feedstock. Thousands of litres of waste vegetable oil (WVO) are collected from our nation's local restaurant chains and households. The WVO collected undergoes a series of rigorous and precise filtration processes at our Diego Martin facility, before it is packaged and shipped to international biodiesel manufacturers.

The international manufacturers take our feedstock and blend it into traditional diesel-based fuels to create what is known as **biodiesel**. The biodiesel combination fuel burns cleaner and greatly reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

Naturally, the automobile and trucking industries have found widespread use for biodiesel as it can be used for any vehicle engine or machinery that already uses diesel. Agricultural, marine and aviation industries are also transitioning to biodiesel as it is a cheaper and greener alternative.



Ecoimpact employee begin the filtration process Image Credit: Ecoimpact Co. Ltd



Containers of filtered biodiesel feedstock ready for export

Image Credit: Ecoimpact Co. Ltd







Big Players Enter the Biofuel Transition

Many countries have already adopted a national transition to this greener fuel source for cars and trucks. The <u>top countries in the</u> <u>world</u> that are currently producing and consuming biofuels are the United States, Brazil, China, Germany, Indonesia and Argentina.

However, in recent years, major players in the energy industry such as <u>ExxonMobile</u> and <u>Shell</u> have joined the effort, investing in biomass farms for feedstock and innovating low-carbon biofuel options for marine and aviation cargo use.

The fact that these fossil fuel giants are looking towards decarbonising their energy offering is a great signal that the interest in alternative fuel sources is growing and on the horizon.



Biodiesel pump at a gas station in the United States Image Credit: <u>C&EN</u>

Get Involved!

Are you a restaurant chain, small business or household looking to dispose of your waste vegetable oil? Join us in decarbonising the global supply chain through biodiesel feedstock!

For complimentary plastic collection kegs for you to dispose of all your olive, palm, soybean, corn, sunflower and other vegetable-based cooking oils, contact us at (868) 633-3609, email us at ecoimpact.info@hadcoltd.com, or visit www.ecoimpacttt.com.

We also provide complimentary collection services for larger quantities of cooking oil.

Alternatively, you can drop off your waste vegetable oil at the following address: **Ecoimpact Facility - Lot 17 DEFG, e Teck Diamond Vale Business Park, Diego Martin.**

For more information on our Recycling Division visit us at www.hadcoltd.com/divisions/recycling





