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METHANOL INSTITUTE "INSIDER REPORT"
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Global Biodiesel News

SRI Consulting (SRIC) has released a comprehensive 670-page 2008 Biodiesel Report, detailing the past 19 years and projecting the next five for the global industry. According to *Market Watch*, the SRIC report charts industry growth in North America and Asia to have increased their markets by 23 and 19 percent, respectively, with the United States leading the charge at a 50% growth rate in the last five years. Analysis of more than 74 countries covers topics like supply/demand, legislation, feedstock, production technologies, and environmental and agricultural issues... "Green Jobs: Towards Decent work in a Sustainable, Low-Carbon World," a U.N. Report published September 24th states that the growing biodiesel industry has created thousands of jobs throughout the world. Many of these jobs are agricultural, concentrated in Southeast Asian countries, such as Malaysia and Indonesia. Planned expansion in Indonesia could bring 3.5 million jobs in the next two years, while Chinese officials see up to 6 million jobs in China's embrace of the industry... Despite the fact that the global biodiesel industry sprouted with the aid of government incentives, the French government has announced a phase out of biofuel tax breaks by 2012. According to *Biofuels-News*, the decision is based on the assumption that oil prices will remain high enough to spur biofuel investment without the help of tax incentives, which currently keep producers exempt from the €0.22/litre fuel tax... San Francisco is hosting the sixth annual **National Biodiesel Conference** on February 1-4, 2009, boasting 400 booths showing the latest in biodiesel products and services. MI will be exhibiting at the conference, and members are welcome to utilize the MI booth and meet attendees.

International Symposium on Alcohol Fuels Held in Taiyuan, China

This week, the 17th International Symposium on Alcohol Fuels was held in Taiyuan, Shanxi Province, China, drawing 200 delegates from more than 20 countries. **Methanex** President and CEO Bruce Aitken gave the opening plenary presentation on Monday morning, and MI's Greg Dolan gave the plenary speech of the opening session on Wednesday. Mr. Dolan also served as a session chair, and



GasTechno Converts Cow Flatulence into Methanol

A cost-effective technology for producing methanol has been developed by a team made up of an energy entrepreneur, Walt Breidenstein; chemical engineer, Nathan Pawlak; and a Russian nuclear scientist, Igor Ivankhenko. According to the *Northern Express*, not only does the process boast a cheaper way to produce methanol, but it is designed to use natural methane gas emitted from livestock which otherwise escapes into the atmosphere contributing to greenhouse gases. The United Nations has declared the methane from cow emissions the "greatest threat to the climate, forests, and wildlife." Livestock emissions are responsible for 18% of the greenhouse gases that cause global warming. That's more than all forms of transportation put together. According to *Zeus Syngas Refining Report*, the GasTechno process is a direct partial oxidation that requires no catalyst, and is 50% to 75% cheaper than conventional methods. Breidenstein has had little success with American investment, but has seen great interest from China.



Notables... China anticipates producing four million tonnes of DME by 2010 for automobile use, according to *Jeifang Daily*. In Shanghai, DME buses have been in service in the Bus 147 line, and two DME fueling stations have been built. About 100 DME buses are expected to run on the road during the 2010 Shanghai World Expo.

Calendar

October 21-23 – Americas Methanol & Fuels Conference, Houston, Texas
November 3 – Methanol Institute Annual Members Meeting, Board Meeting, and Board Dinner, Dubai, UAE
November 4-5 – 2008 Methanol Forum, Dubai, UAE