

## Press release

nova-Institut GmbH ([www.nova-institute.eu](http://www.nova-institute.eu))

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# The Chemical and Plastics Industry Will Need to Replace 1 Gt of Fossil Carbon per Year with Renewable Carbon from Biomass, CO<sub>2</sub> and Recycling to Reach Net-Zero by 2050

The upcoming Renewable Materials Conference, 23-25 May in Siegburg/Cologne (Germany) promises to be a one-of-a-kind event that provides a platform for showcasing the impressive achievements in the field of renewable materials. The conference will bring together experts, stakeholders, and industry leaders to discuss latest developments and share their visions and strategies for the future.

Although experts project lower growth rates for the chemical and plastics industries in the coming decades, global demand for embedded carbon – the carbon in molecules – is expected to increase significantly to 1.15 Gt of carbon per year by 2050. Today, approximately 88 % of embedded carbon comes from fossil feedstocks, including oil, natural gas and coal. To achieve a fully defossilised economy, this demand must be met exclusively by renewable carbon sources. And there only are three sources of renewable carbon: biomass, the direct use of CO<sub>2</sub> and the recycling of carbon already in our technosphere.

## Renewable Materials Conference 2023

Set to take place from 23-25 May 2023, the Renewable Materials Conference brings together the brightest stars of the renewable materials sector in Siegburg/Cologne (Germany). More than 500 participants are expected to attend the meeting point for global leaders in industry, science, and politics. With the unique concept of uniting all renewable materials solutions at one event hits the mark: *“The Renewable Materials Conference has established itself as one of the most important conferences for renewable materials worldwide,”* says Michael Carus, CEO of nova-Institute and spokesperson for the event. *“We are proud to bring together global leaders in industry, science, and politics to shape the future of renewable materials and create a more sustainable world for generations to come.”*

All information and registration for the event is available at: [www.renewable-materials.eu](http://www.renewable-materials.eu)

Top speakers from world-renowned companies, pioneering start-ups, high-profile research and politics will present and discuss a diverse range of innovative solutions based on biomass, CO<sub>2</sub> and recycling in 80 presentations (main and parallel sessions), 20 panel discussions and several expert workshops. Attendees will gain valuable insights into the innovative technologies and solutions that are driving progress in renewable materials, and will learn about the latest trends and emerging opportunities.

More than 40 top-class exhibitors are expected at a new and perfectly suited location – the conference center “Rhein Sieg Forum” in Siegburg near Bonn and Cologne (Germany), easily

accessible by high-speed train (ICI) from Brussels or Frankfurt, for example. A matchmaking area throughout the three days, long lunch breaks and three evening meeting points guarantee comprehensive and effective networking. Online networking starts two weeks before the event.

With a focus on collaborative efforts and knowledge-sharing, the conference will provide a platform for attendees to engage in productive discussions and forge new partnerships. Participants will leave with a better understanding of the current state of renewable materials and a clear sense of the exciting possibilities that lie ahead.

Join us at the Renewable Materials Conference in Siegburg/Cologne, Germany from May 23-25, 2023, and be a part of the movement towards a more sustainable chemical, material and plastics industry.

## **Six Materials Nominated for the Innovation Award “Renewable Material of the Year 2023”**

New materials will enable sustainable products in areas such as textiles, cosmetics, packaging, as well as elastic and biodegradable materials for a variety of applications. Participants will vote for the winners.

One way to overcome the industry’s dependence on fossil carbon is to replace crude oil and natural gas with renewable carbon within the existing structures of the chemical industry. Other ways require innovation, the development of new processes, building blocks and materials. This means a new way of thinking about chemistry and materials. Ready-to-use, fossil-free, sustainable material solutions with a low carbon footprint are in rapidly growing demand. Innovative brand owners are looking for such solutions, especially those that will soon become mainstream.

With the innovation award “Renewable Material of the Year 2023”, nova-Institute, as organiser, and Covestro, as sponsor, aim to recognise particularly exciting and promising solutions that contribute to replacing fossil carbon from the ground. The call for submissions was answered by 30 companies. The advisory board and the nova experts had a hard time selecting the six most exciting and nominating them for the award.

On the second day of the conference, the nominated companies will present their products and all 500+ conference participants will vote for the three winners on site and online. An exciting competition for you to be a part of.

All information here: <https://renewable-materials.eu/award-application/>

## **Sponsoring, Exhibition and Company Events**

The innovation award is sponsored by Covestro (DE), Platinum Sponsor is UPM Biochemicals (FI). Many thanks to our Gold Sponsors Alfa Laval (SE), CovationBio (US), GS Biotech (CN), iff (US), NESTE (FI), Sappi (NL/ZA), TUEV Austria (AT), Sugar Energy (CN) as well as our Bronze sponsors BASF (DE), DIN CERTCO (DE), FKUR (DE), GEA (DE), Heraeus (DE) and Sulzer (CH). Finally, we thank Borealis (AT) as the conference beer-on-tap sponsor.

## **Partners**

The Renewable Materials Conference is supported by industry and trade associations, non-profit organisations, research institutions and interest groups that are thematically linked to the conference: AVK (DE), BBIA (UK), BCNP Consultants (DE), C.A.R.M.E.N. (DE), CLIB – Cluster Industrial Biotechnology (DE), EEN - Enterprise Europe/Zenit (EU) European

Bioplastics (EU), FNR – Fachagentur Nachwachsende Rohstoffe (DE), GO!PHA (International), In4Climate.NRW (DE), IBB – Industrielle Biotechnologie Bayern Netzwerk (DE), ITA – Institut für Textiltechnik of RWTH Aachen (DE), kunststoffland NRW (DE), ÖGUT – Österreichische Gesellschaft für Umwelt und Technik (AT), Plastics Europe (DE) and Renewable Carbon Initiative (International).

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nova-Institute is a private and independent research institute, founded in 1994; nova offers research and consultancy with a focus on the transition of the chemical and material industry to renewable carbon: How to substitute fossil carbon with biomass, direct CO<sub>2</sub> utilisation and recycling. We offer our unique understanding to support the transition of your business into a climate neutral future.

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