



PRESS RELEASE

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European renewable ethanol industry releases annual State of the Industry Report

Brussels, Today - On the occasion of its annual general assembly, the European renewable ethanol association (ePURE) has today released its annual 2015 State of the Industry Report.

The annual report offers a comprehensive look at the European ethanol industry, its market and policy environment, and is accompanied by a key facts sheet, which presents a concise overview of industry data, and a map of ethanol biorefineries in Europe. These publications provide a statistical overview and assessment of the domestic ethanol market, including data on production, consumption, imports, feedstock use and co-products. The report also provides information on how European renewable ethanol helps reducing emissions in transport, contributes to Europe's energy security, uses land responsibly and in support of food production and is at the forefront of innovative sustainable technology and advanced biofuels.

The report's publication coincides with the European Commission's annual Sustainable Energy Week, and a high-level stakeholder conference "Driving Road Decarbonisation Forwards" on 18 June. The findings of this report demonstrate European renewable ethanol's clear record as a sustainable, low carbon energy source for transport.

"Last year was a difficult year for the European ethanol industry. We had a situation whereby domestic prices collapsed by 30%, a damaging trend that was primarily driven by the uncertainty surrounding Europe's biofuels policy. But the outlook is beginning to be more positive. This report shows that the European renewable ethanol has been a success story for Europe but it can contribute much more under the right policy conditions", said Mr. Robert Wright, Secretary General

of ePURE.

“With the closure of the ILUC file it is now up to Member States to implement Europe’s 2020 targets. The introduction of E10 fuel can help them in this task. The EU-wide roll out of E10 would reduce transport emissions by 15 million tonnes, the equivalent to taking 9 million cars of the road for 1 year. It would also reduce oil use in Europe’s transport sector by 50 million barrels”, added Mr. Wright

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- The 2015 State of the industry report can be found [here](#).
- An overview of the key industry data can be found [here](#).
- To find out more information on our companies and biorefinery locations in Europe please click [here](#).

An overview of ePURE’s 2015 State of the Industry Report*

The market

- Europe produced 6.6 billion litres of renewable ethanol, an increase of 13% from 2013. This represented 7% of total global ethanol production.
- European renewable ethanol production capacity was 7.8 billion litres, meaning an overall production utilisation rate of 85%.
- Europe consumed 7.7 billion litres of ethanol (Source: F.O. Lichts).
- The end uses of European renewable ethanol production were fuel use (86%), industrial (7%) and food and beverages (7%).
- 10.5 million tonnes of grain, or 2% of EU grain supply, and 2.2 million tonnes of out-of-quota sugar, or 8% of EU sugar supply, were used for European renewable ethanol production.
- Feedstocks used to produce European renewable ethanol were maize (42%), wheat (33%), sugar beet (18%) and other cereals (7%).
- European renewable ethanol companies produced 5.2 million tonnes of co-products, 63% of which was high-protein, GMO-free animal feed, enough to feed 2.1 million dairy cows, or 10% of the EU dairy herd.
- Europe imported 600 million litres of ethanol, less than 10% of its total consumption.
- 78% of all ethanol imports came from countries with duty free access to the European market, only 22% of imports paid import duties.

- Ethanol prices in Europe dropped by 30% between 2013 and 2014.

GHG savings

- European renewable ethanol achieved on average 61% GHG savings compared to petrol.
- The use of European renewable ethanol fuel in transport reduced GHG emissions by 5 million tonnes, equivalent to taking 3 million cars off Europe's road for 1 year.

Energy security

- The use of European renewable ethanol fuel in transport displaced 4.8% of Europe's petrol volumes, saving €1.5 billion to the EU oil bill (based on 2014 oil prices).
- Ethanol fuel use represented 20% of the liquid biofuels market in Europe.

Land use

- European renewable ethanol production utilised feedstocks grown on less than 1% of Europe's agricultural land.

**Based on 2014 data reported by ePURE members who represent 90% of European renewable ethanol production.*

Contact Details:

Mr. Barry Magee
Communications Manager
ePURE
T: +32 2 657 66 79
E: magee@epure.org

www.epure.org

About ePURE

The European renewable ethanol association (ePURE) represents the interests of European renewable ethanol producers to the European institutions, industry stakeholders, the media, academia and the general public. Based in Brussels, ePURE represents 58 member companies, with production plants in 16 member states, accounting for 90% of the installed renewable ethanol capacity in Europe. The organisation, established in 2010, promotes the beneficial uses of ethanol throughout Europe.