



Advanced Biodiesel Production Short Course

2009 Penn State Bioenergy Short Course Series



14-15 October, 2009

Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center
State College, PA

Register online at <http://www.bioenergy.psu.edu/shortcourses.asp>

Overview:

Feedstock Flexibility, Quality Assurance, Efficiency, Waste Handling...

Biodiesel manufacturers are facing a variety of new challenges that they must deal with in order to be successful in the current economy. Survival and success in this market requires advanced skills and a keen understanding of the latest technologies and processes.

Join us for an exciting one-and-a-half day short course in which we cover the latest “hot topics” that currently affect the biodiesel industry. Experts will provide thorough coverage of biodiesel processing methods, plus advanced training on those topics that are critical for biodiesel producers in the next few years. A tour of the chemical engineering test lab and the university’s pilot-scale biodiesel plant will also highlight the event. Attendees will receive a copy of the technical manual “Building a Successful Biodiesel Business” as part of the short course.

Who Should Attend:

Plant operators, managers, owners, and project developers will benefit from the focused, in-depth coverage of the critical issues facing today’s biodiesel industry. Persons who are planning a biodiesel startup in the near future should also plan to attend. Time will be provided for networking with other attendees as well as interacting with the presenters.

Location:

Beautiful Nittany Valley, the home of The Pennsylvania State University, will be the site of the 2009 Advanced Biodiesel Production short course. Our venue is the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center in State College, PA – conveniently located on the east side of campus and easily accessible by road and air. A limited number of hotel rooms are available at the Penn Stater on a first-come-first served basis (800-233-7505 or www.pshs.psu.edu, mention event code COLJ09N). Many other hotels are also available in the vicinity.

The workshop will be held during homecoming week at the university – a festive and scenic time of the year. Be sure to make your travel and lodging arrangements as early as possible, so as to ensure a suitable spot.

Program:

Day One: Biodiesel Production Methods

- Biodiesel Production Processes
- Plant Equipment and Operations
- Plant and Production Cost Estimating
- Feedstock Pretreatment
- Post-Processing
- Biodiesel Processing Strategies
- Tour of Test Lab and Pilot Plant

Day Two: Hot Topics

- Feedstock Procurement & Choices
- Low Quality Feedstocks Concerns
- Dealing with Feedstock Variability – Equipment and Process Prospective
- Developing a Regional Feedstock Production Program
- Advanced Technologies and Processes
- How to Minimize Production Cost While Making
- ASTM Quality Biodiesel
- Troubleshooting the Biodiesel Process
- Methanol Recovery
- Waste Utilization and Handling
- Safety
- Quality Assurance and Testing

Presenters:

The short course will feature presentations from the following experts in the area of biodiesel:

Rudy Pruszko

Rudy is an internationally-known expert in the area of biodiesel production, working as part of the Iowa State University Center for Industrial Research and Service. A Pittsburgh native and Penn State alumnus, he is one of the authors of the book *Building a Successful Biodiesel Business* and one of the instructors for the internationally known Iowa State Biodiesel Workshops series. Pruszko has taught attendees from 18 foreign countries and over 500 participants in the United States.

He has conducted feasibility studies for the biodiesel industry with many of his studies resulting in financing for the plant construction and operation, and he is recognized as an expert in assessments of new and existing projects in biodiesel. His expertise includes biodiesel plant

design, alternative feedstock pretreatment, feasibility studies, financial modeling, and businesses start-up and consulting advice to new biodiesel operations.

Mike Haas

Mike is a Project Lead Scientist at the Eastern Regional Research Center, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture in Wyndmoor, PA, on the outskirts of Philadelphia. In 15 years of biodiesel research his group has investigated the use of low quality feedstocks for biodiesel production, developed new methods of biodiesel production, assessed biodiesel plant construction and operational costs, and explored fuel additive and modification strategies to reduce nitrogen oxide production by engines burning biodiesel. He has participated in the organization of national and international biodiesel conferences, and assembled a wealth of experience in the biodiesel field –authoring or co-authoring over 100 scientific journal articles or other publications during his career.

Joel Hunter

Joel is an agronomist with the Penn State Cooperative Extension in Crawford County, Pennsylvania, and is known for his involvement in a project aimed at developing a regional biodiesel feedstock program utilizing Camelina and Canola as crops.

Registration Information:

Online registration will open 01 August. Program and registration information, including driving directions and lodging, will be available online at:

<http://www.bioenergy.psu.edu/shortcourses.asp>

Registration fee before 01 October: \$275
(slightly higher afterwards)

Registration includes event admission, biodiesel manual, informational packet, buffet lunch on Day 2, coffee, tea and snacks.

If you have questions, please contact Daniel Ciolkosz at dec109@psu.edu or 814-863-3484.

Organizing Committee:

The 2009 Advanced Biodiesel Production Workshop is organized by:

Glen Cauffman, Dan Ciolkosz, and Doug Schaufler of the Penn State Biomass Energy Center, Farm Operations, and the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department.

Program development assistance provided by

Hal Wrigley – Knightsbridge Biofuels
Glen Green – Lake Erie Biofuels
Chuck Wilson – Keystone Biofuels



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Penn State Biomass Energy Center; Tom L. Richard, Director; 225 Agricultural Engineering Building; Pennsylvania State University; University Park, PA 16802-1909. The Biomass Energy Center is sponsored by the Environment and Natural Resources Institute, Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment, and Penn State Cooperative Extension. Penn State is an Equal Opportunity University.

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