

Media Release

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Borealis and VERBUND Joint hydrogen project on an industrial scale

Borealis and VERBUND are planning a joint project in which green hydrogen will be used to produce fertilizers, melamine and technical nitrogen.

Green hydrogen is the key to decarbonising industrial products and processes, particularly in areas that are difficult or impossible to electrify. Borealis and VERBUND have initiated a decarbonisation project that will use green hydrogen to produce fertilizers, melamine, and technical nitrogen on an industrial scale in a more sustainable way.

The joint project taking place within the framework of the pan-European IPCEI (Important Projects of Common European Interest) process entails the production of green hydrogen at an industrial electrolysis plant (60 MW) using electricity from renewable sources and deionised water. The green hydrogen will be used to produce fertilizers, melamine and technical nitrogen at Borealis operations in Linz, Austria. The oxygen generated by water splitting in the course of the electrolysis process will be used directly in production. The electrolyser will also provide grid services for the transmission network. The electrolysis plant is scheduled to commence operations in 2025, with projected annual CO₂ emissions reductions of up to 90,000 tons.

"Green hydrogen is a crucial lever in driving the energy transition. One of our strategic goals is to establish VERBUND as a key hydrogen player," says Michael Strugl, CEO VERBUND. "As a partner to industry, we are implementing joint projects that contribute to the decarbonisation of industrial processes and the achievement of climate targets."

"We are pleased to continue the successful co-operation with VERBUND in Linz in order to jointly develop solutions for the energy transition," says Borealis CEO Thomas Gangl. "For Borealis, green hydrogen is an alternative to natural gas in ammonia production, and using it will lead to a reduction in CO₂ emissions. This joint effort is another example of how we are re-inventing essentials for sustainable living."

With its approval in mid-September of IPCEI projects, including the green hydrogen project between partners Borealis and VERBUND, the European Commission has now given the green light for an entire series of hydrogen projects in Europe.



Borealis and VERBUND are planning a joint project in Linz, Austria for green hydrogen to be used in the production of fertilizers, melamine and technical nitrogen.

Photo: © Borealis

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About Borealis

Borealis is one of the world's leading providers of advanced and sustainable polyolefin solutions and a European front-runner in polyolefins recycling. In Europe, we are a market leader in base chemicals and fertilizers. We leverage our polymer expertise and decades of experience to offer value adding, innovative and circular material solutions for key industries such as consumer products, energy, healthcare, infrastructure and mobility.

In re-inventing essentials for sustainable living, we build on our commitment to safety, our people, innovation and technology, and performance excellence. We are accelerating the transformation to a circular economy of polyolefins and expanding our geographical footprint to better serve our customers around the globe.

With head offices in Vienna, Austria, we employ 6,900 employees and operate in over 120 countries. In 2021, we generated total sales of EUR 12.342 billion and a net profit of EUR 1,396 million. OMV, the Austria-based international oil and gas company, owns 75% of our shares, while the remaining 25% is owned by a holding company of the Abu-Dhabi based Mubadala. We supply services and products to customers around the globe through Borealis and two important joint ventures: Borouge (with the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, or ADNOC, based in UAE); and Baystar™ (with TotalEnergies, based in the US). www.borealisgroup.com | www.borealiseverminds.com

About VERBUND

VERBUND is Austria's leading energy company and one of the largest producers of hydroelectricity in Europe. The Group generates around 97% of its electricity from renewable energy, primarily from hydropower. VERBUND trades electricity in 12 countries and generated around €874m group result and €1,579m in EBITDA in 2021 with approximately 3,200 employees. With its subsidiaries and partners, VERBUND is active in the generation of electricity, transmission and in international trading and sales. VERBUND has been quoted on the Vienna Stock Exchange since 1988 with 51% of the share capital being held by the Republic of Austria.

VERBUND is the decisive player for the success of the energy transition in Austria. The challenges that lie ahead require a new company spirit, which VERBUND is driving forward with its Mission V. The Mission V is a long-term and comprehensive transformation program and stands for the will to confront the climate crisis as a force for change. This program is based on the VERBUND Strategy 2030 with its three main pillars: Strengthening the integrated home market, expanding renewable energies in Europe and becoming a European hydrogen player. With Mission V, VERBUND is accelerating the achievement of the strategic goals 2030 and ensuring their implementation. Further information: www.verbund.com