

# Biomass to Drop-in Fuels: Demonstration Capability of Rentech's BioEnergy Center of Excellence

## Dr. Weibin Jiang, Senior Principal Engineer



\$150 Million Fully Integrated Biomass Synthetic Fuels, Power and Chemicals Facility

June 14, 2012

- Established in 1981
- Employees: 250+
- Revenue: ~\$200 million
- Publicly-traded: NYSE AMEX: "RTK"
- Locations:
  - Los Angeles, CA (Headquarters)
     Natchez, MS
  - Commerce City, CO (BECE location) Honolulu, HI
  - o Atlanta, GA
- 30 years of technology operating experience
- 40 years of syngas production experience
- Nitrogen fertilizer facility: 600K tons/y
- BioEnergy Center of Excellence "BECE"
  - \$150 Million Fully Integrated Biomass Synthetic Fuels, Power and Chemicals Facility

East Dubuque, IL

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**Clean Energy Solutions** 











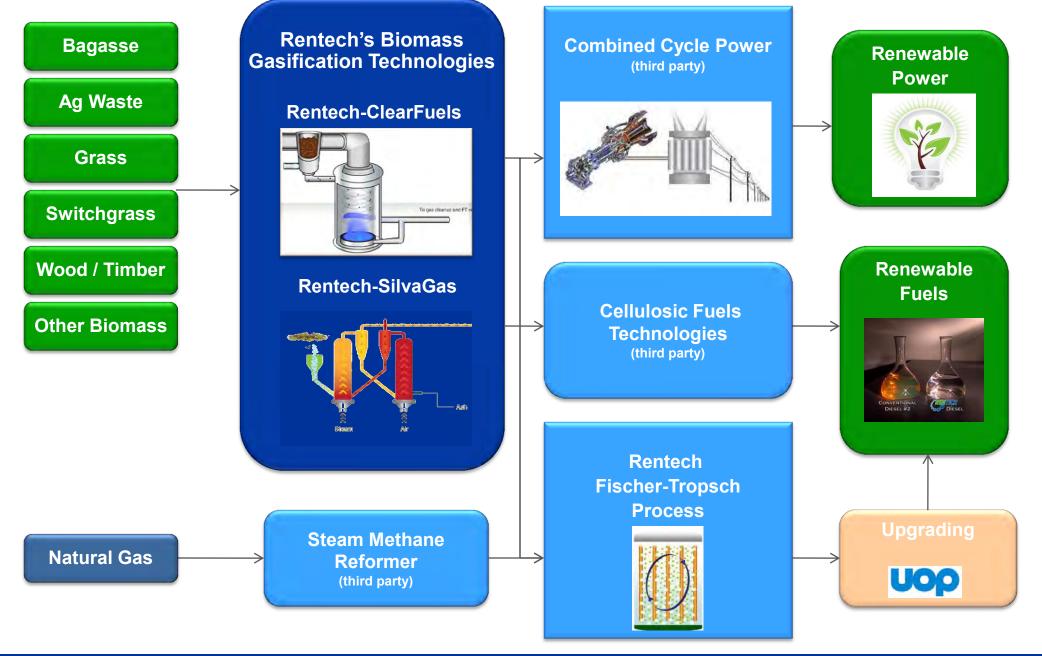
## **Clean Energy Technologies**



	Rentech-ClearFuels Biomass gasification	Rentech-SilvaGas Biomass gasification	<u>Rentech Process</u> Synthetic Jet / Diesel
Feedstocks:	Finely ground virgin biomass: sugarcane bagasse & wood	Wood, agricultural residues, straw, switch grass, & energy crops	Syngas from any carbon-bearing materials
Products:	Hydrogen, Optimized for fuel	Power; fuels & power	Hydrocarbons for synthetic fuels; specialty chemicals
Readiness:	Proven at pilot scale; To be proven at demo scale at PDU w/ aid of \$23M DOE grant	Proven at commercial scale; Deployable today	Proven at demonstration scale; Deployable today

## **Energy Technology: Integrated Value Chain**





## **Energy Products**



#### **Certified Fuels from Rentech's FT Technology**



Diesel: Audi 1000 Mile Drive





/e Certified Jet: United Airlines Flight Lower tailpipe emissions
Low carbon footprint & cellulosic RINs

#### **Other Cellulosic Fuels**

- Cellulosic ethanol and other fuels from our biomass gasification technologies
- Fuels can qualify for cellulosic RINs

#### **Renewable Hydrogen**

 Produced from biomass by Rentech-ClearFuels gasifier

#### **Renewable Power**

Renewable baseload power; no backup required

Close to interconnection and transmission

## **BECE: BioEnergy Center of Excellence**

RENTECH

- Integrated systems for BioFuel, Renewable Chemical, and Power Production; Biomass Gasification; Hydro-Processing; Catalyst Development and Testing Labs for Collaborative Technology Advancement(s)
  - Platform for development of BioEnergy technologies for commercial deployment
  - Designed to be highly flexible "Plug and Play" for innovative new technologies
  - Produces ultra clean, certified aviation and diesel fuels, naphtha, power and chemicals
  - \$23 million DOE grant for a Rentech-ClearFuels biomass gasifier with an additional \$13 million invested by Rentech

#### Produced Ultra-clean diesel & aviation fuels and naphtha

- Diesel fuel meets ASTM, D97566 and EN 590 specs
- "Drop in" fuels

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#### Testing syngas and fuels from variety of feedstocks:

- Wood Waste
  - o Bagasse

MSW/RDF

- Corn Stover o
- Natural Gas Others

#### \$150 million technology and R&D center

- o 70 scientists, engineers, technicians and operators
- o 3 catalyst development and evaluation labs
- o 1 analytical and fuels testing lab
- 1 wax/catalyst separation technology lab







## **Rentech-ClearFuels IBR Project**

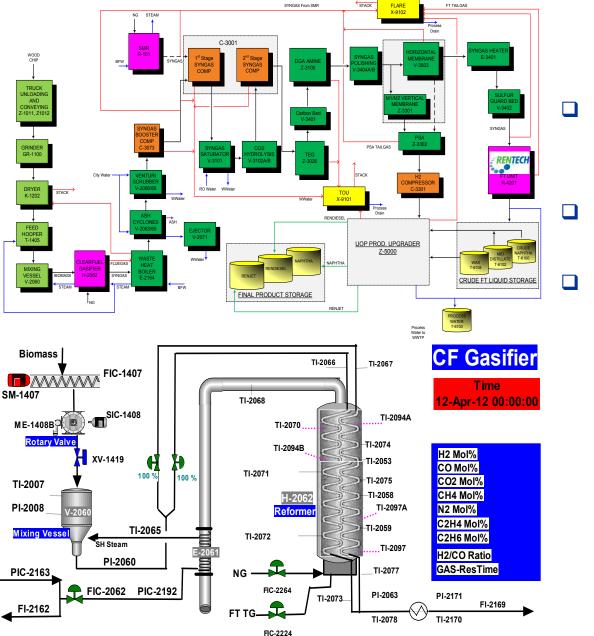
- A strong project team
  - URS Corporation; Linde/Hydro-Chem; Hawaiian Electric; National Renewable Energy Lab & Hawaii Natural Energy Institute
  - On-time and on-budget project execution
- Jointly submitted competitive proposal and received \$23 million grant from DOE under the American Recover and Reinvestment Act, Rentech provided the remaining \$13 million of funding for \$36 million project
- Mechanically Complete of 20 ton-per-day biomass gasifier in Nov 2011 and current under startup and process optimization stage
- Rentech-ClearFuels gasifier will be demonstrated in 2012 during a series of 3 campaigns using sugar cane bagasse, virgin wood waste, & a combination of the two for the production of ASTM certified renewable jet and diesel fuels





## **ClearFuels IBR Performance**





- Total ~ accumulative 100+ hrs stable operation in producing Biomass-Derived Syngas
- Steady Feed handling system & reformer operation

Preliminary data indicates:

- ✓ High Carbon Conversion to Gas
- ✓ Consistent Low Tar Content (~15 PPMV) after water scrubber
- ✓ Stable Syngas Composition

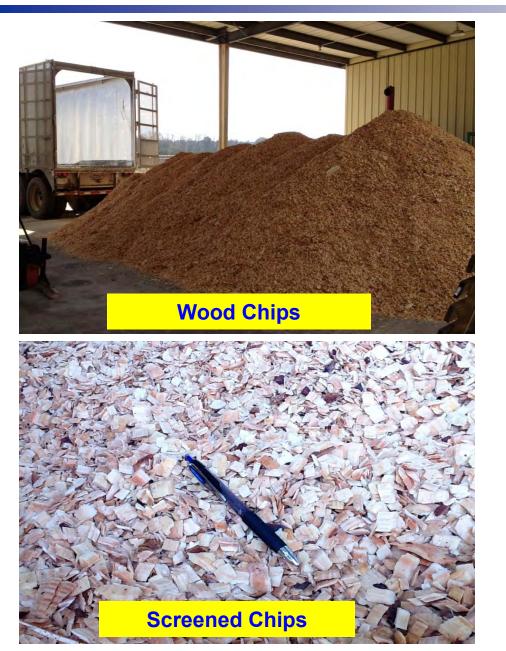
# BECE

# **BTL Process Walk Through**



### **Southern Pine White Chip Feedstock**





\* Courtesy of Steven Taylor from University of Auburn



**Clean Energy Solutions** 

## **ClearFuels Gasifier**





## **Syngas Conditioning Unit**





## **FT Reactor**





## **UOP Product Upgrading**





## End Product: "Drop-In" Fuels



