



# Conversion routes to cellulosic alcohol

Proving second generation processes in practical demonstration

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# Biocommodities = white biotechnology

| We make biotechnology work.

- Since 1921 independent
- Located in Vienna, Austria, Hong-Kong and Huston, TX
- Bioprocess plants for the sugar, starch and food industries
- From raw material preparation to final product
- Proprietary technology
  - alcohol | bioethanol
  - vinegar
  - yeast
  - organic acids
  - starch sugars



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# VOGELBUSCH Biocommodities

| Process design of alcohol plants since 1921

- ▶ Some 40 plants in the late 1970ies/early 1980ies in Brazil, first African bioethanol plant in 1983 (Kenya)
- ▶ 36 bioethanol plants since 1981 in North America, China, Europe with a total annual capacity of 5 million tons
- ▶ First with largest bioethanol plants on three continents
- ▶ Technology supplier to major producers, e. g.
  - ▶ Jilin Fuel Ethanol
  - ▶ Abengoa Bioenergy
  - ▶ Cargill
  - ▶ Südzucker (CropEnergies)



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# Second generation ethanol

| VOGELBUSCH experience

Complementing client's 2G process with proven bioethanol technology

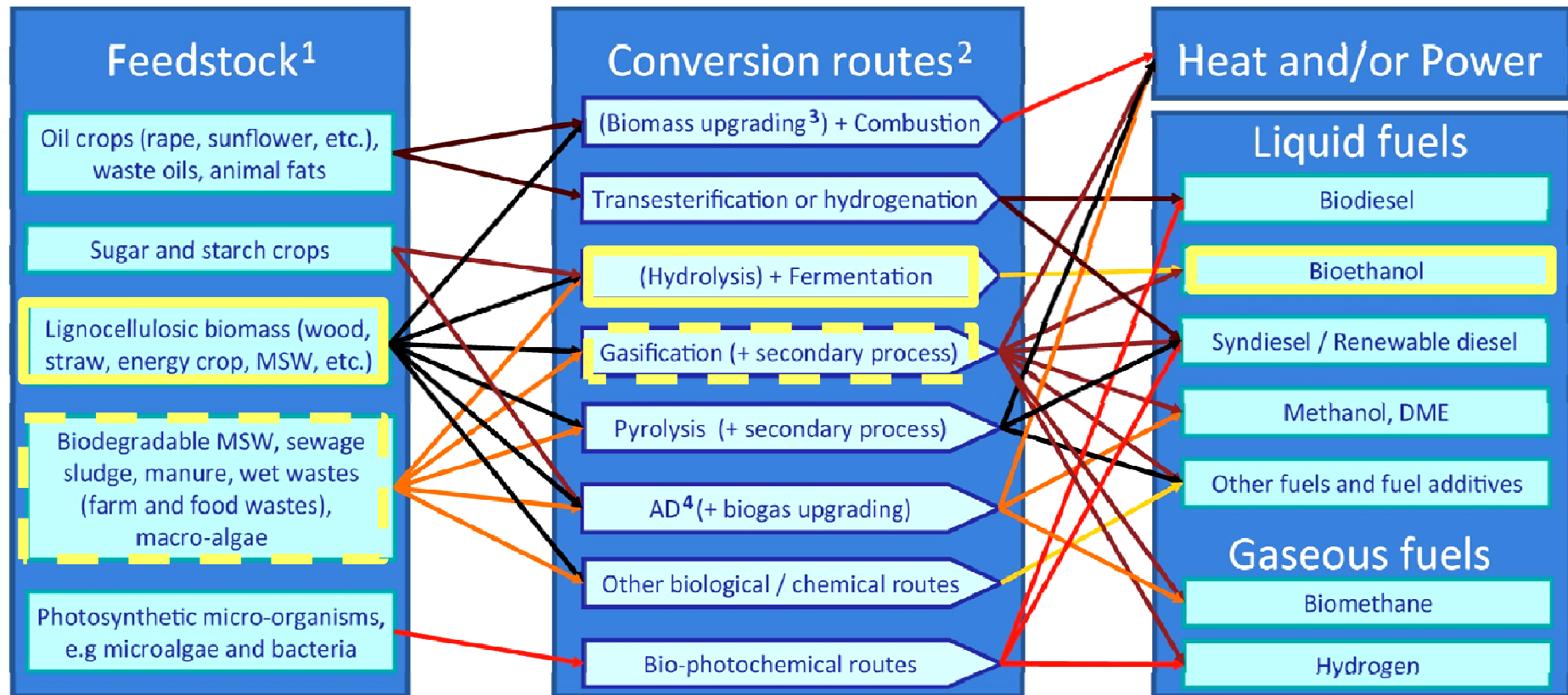
- ▶ Process design for pilot and demonstration plants
- ▶ Assist in developing fermentation and separation strategies
- ▶ Equipment supply for separation, distillation and dehydration

Examples:

- ▶ demo plant of INBICON | DK
- ▶ demo plant of IOGEN | CD
- ▶ pilot plant ABENGOA BIOENERGY | US
- ▶ pilot plant of MITSUI/SIME DARBY | MY
- ▶ commercial plant INEOS Bio | US



# Biorefineries



<sup>1</sup> Parts of each feedstock, e.g. crop residues, could also be used in other routes

<sup>2</sup> Each route also gives co-products

<sup>3</sup> Biomass upgrading includes any one of the densification processes (pelletisation, pyrolysis, torrefaction, etc.)

<sup>4</sup> AD = Anaerobic Digestion



# SHOWCASE PROJECT: INBICON | Kalundborg | Denmark

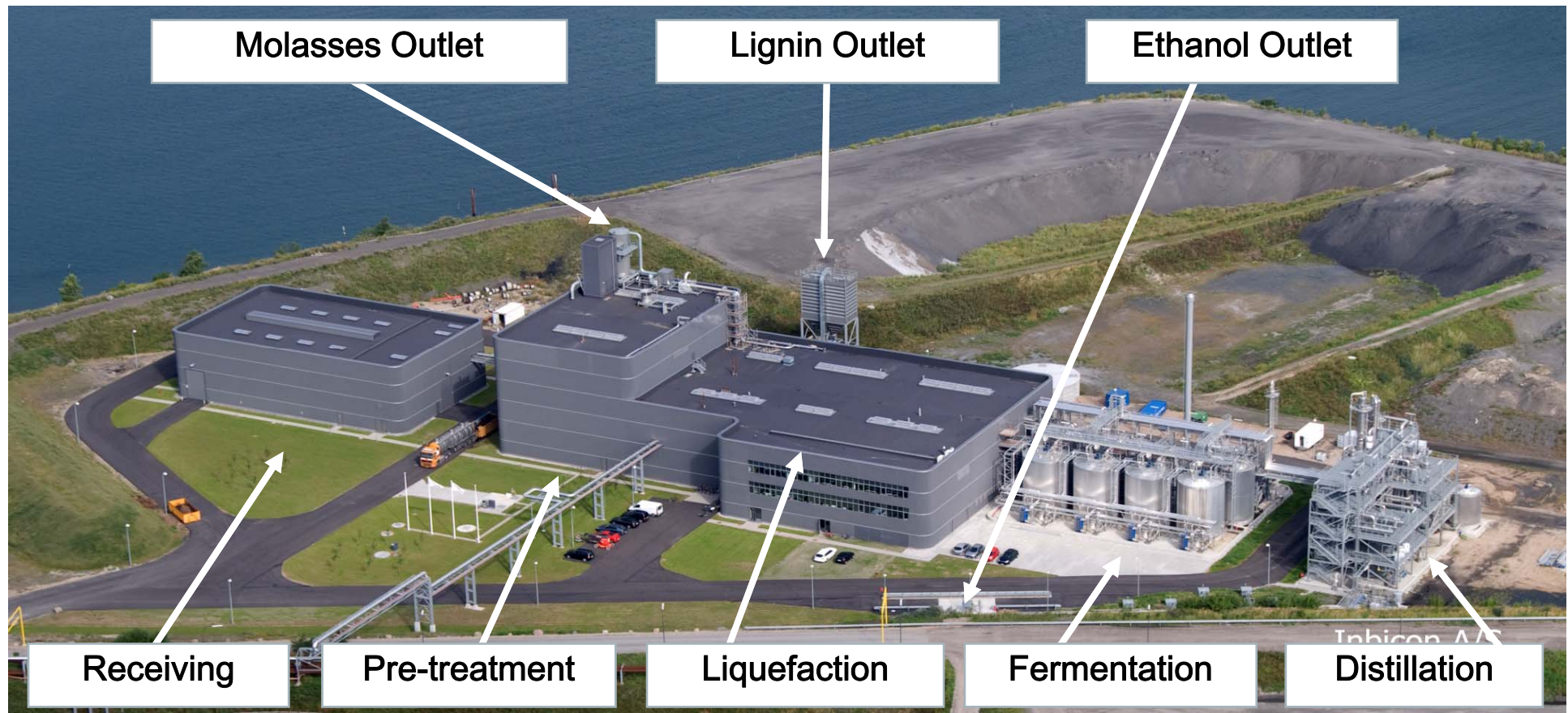
Second generation demonstration plant

Input: 30 000 t/y wheat straw

Output: 5.4 million liters ethanol  
13,100 t lignin pellets  
11,250 t C5-molasses



## SHOWCASE PROJECT: INBICON | Kalundborg | Denmark





# SHOWCASE PROJECT: INBICON | Kalundborg | Denmark

Combination of technology

**Straw  
Handling**



**Hydro-thermal  
Pretreatment**



**Liquefaction**



**Fermentation**



**Destillation**



**DONG  
20 years  
experience**

**INBICON  
core  
technology**

**VOGELBUSCH  
downstream  
technology**



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# SHOWCASE PROJECT: INBICON | Kalundborg | Denmark

## Status Quo

- ▶ Proven technology for integral process on industrial scale – design capacity reached
- ▶ Steam explosion pretreatment – no chemicals required
- ▶ 2G Bioethanol produced at spec
- ▶ Distribution of BIO95 2G fuel in Denmark by STATOIL
- ▶ Highly pure lignin pellets delivered to power plant
- ▶ C5 molasses delivered to biogas plant
- ▶ Design available for industrial scale plants



# SHOWCASE PROJECT: INEOS Bio | Vero Beach, FL | USA

Second generation commercial plant

Input:       vegetative waste  
              yard waste  
              municipal solid waste

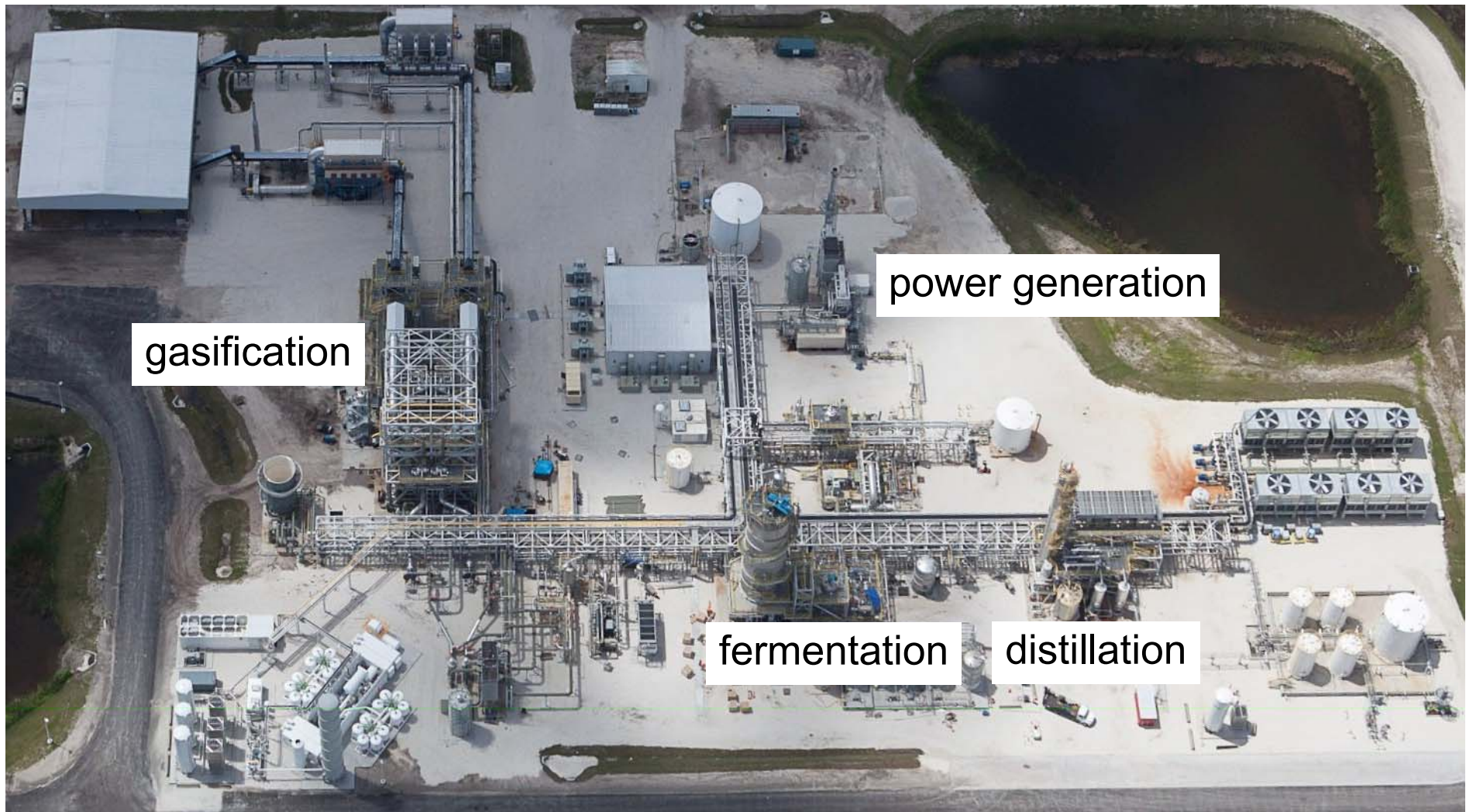
Output:      30 million liters ethanol per year  
              6 MW gross electric power generation



**INEOS Bio**



# SHOWCASE PROJECT: INEOS Bio | Vero Beach, FL | USA

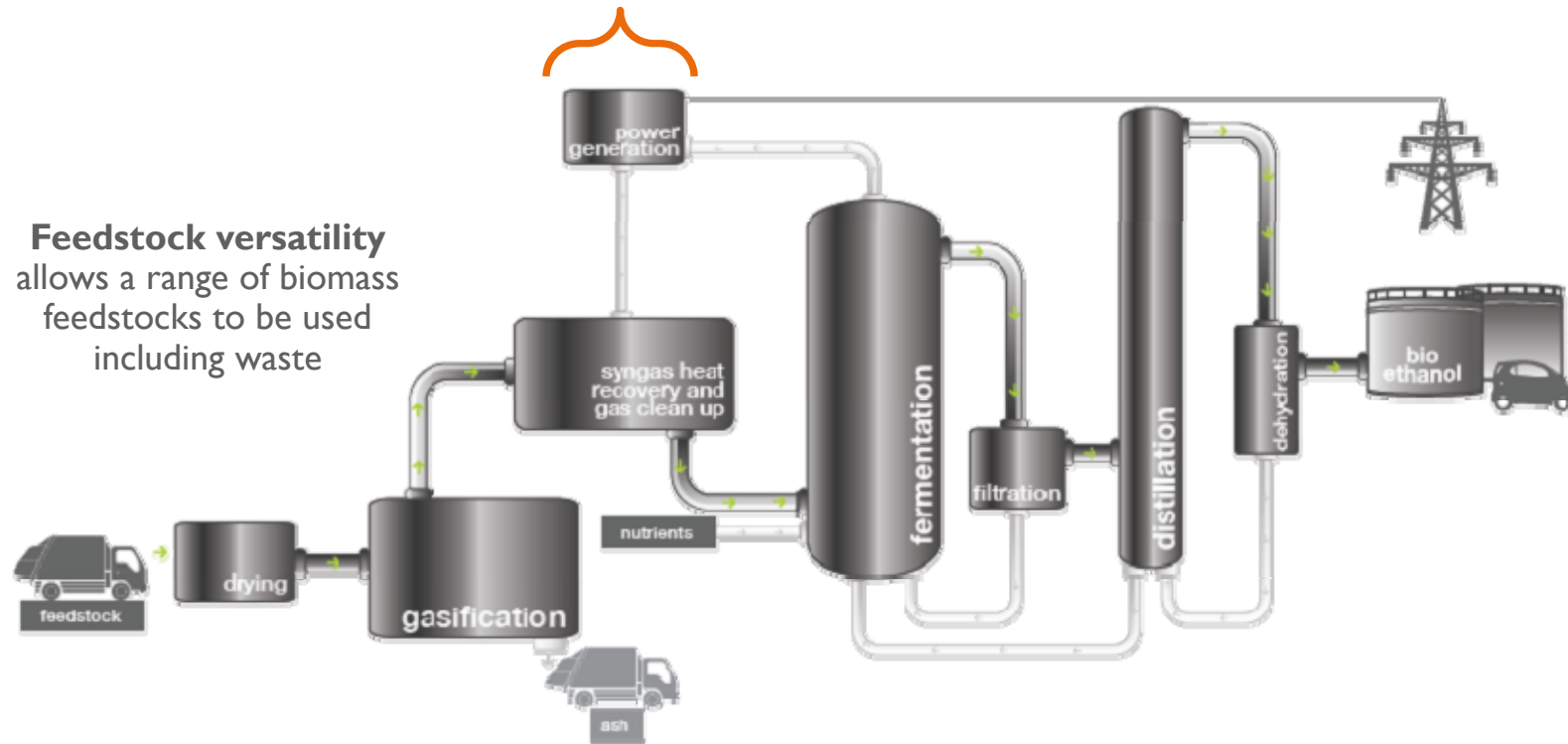


# SHOWCASE PROJECT: INEOS Bio | Vero Beach, FL | USA

Process Overview: Bioethanol from waste combined with CHP

**Waste heat and offgas recovery** for renewable power generation for use in the bioethanol process and for export

**Feedstock versatility** allows a range of biomass feedstocks to be used including waste



**Two stage gasification** to produce syngas without significant by-products

**Syngas converted into bioethanol** via fermentation using proprietary biocatalyst then distillation

# SHOWCASE PROJECT: INEOS Bio | Vero Beach, FL | USA

Status quo

- ▶ Strong US government partnership
  - ▶ DOE grant & USDA loan guarantee
- ▶ EPC awarded to AMEC in November 2010
- ▶ Ground broken in February 2011
- ▶ Currently under commissioning



**INEOS Bio**



# Syngas fermentation

## General facts

- ▶ Fermentation of syngas into ethanol based on the following reactions:
  - ▶  $6\text{CO} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH} + 4\text{CO}_2$
  - ▶  $2\text{CO}_2 + 6\text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH} + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- ▶ Also other side reactions e.g. into acetic acid
- ▶ Microorganisms:
  - ▶ High productivity of ethanol
  - ▶ Low by-product formation
  - ▶ High tolerance against inhibiting substances in the syngas
  - ▶ e.g. *Clostridium ljungdahlii*



# Syngas fermentation

## General facts

- ▶ Feedstock for gas fermentation can be derived from a broad range of sources:
  - ▶ Syngas of biomass (e.g. vegetative waste, yard waste)
  - ▶ Syngas of municipal wastes
  - ▶ Industrial waste gases (e.g. steel production)
  - ▶ Combination of several sources
- ▶ Waste streams converted directly on site into thermal or electric power



## Comparison of different technologies

|                            |                            | Starch based | Cellulosic based          | Syngas fermentation           |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Raw material               |                            | wheat / corn | wheat straw               | biomass                       |
| Yield                      | l alcohol / t raw material | 390          | 180 (C6)<br>250 (C6 + C5) | 200 - 260                     |
| Fermentation time          | hours                      | 60 – 70      | 120 – 150                 | < 1                           |
| Alcohol content            | %vol in mash               | 11 – 16      | 5.0 – 10.0                | 3.0 – 5.0                     |
| Viscosity                  | cP                         | 30 – 50      | 200 - 400                 | 5 – 10                        |
| Steam consumption          | t /1000 l alc              |              |                           |                               |
| Upstream (Hydrolysis)      |                            | 0.3 – 0.4    | 2.0 – 4.0                 | -                             |
| Distillation / Dehydration |                            | 1.2 – 2.0    | 1.7 – 2.5                 | 3.0 – 5.0                     |
| Evaporation / Drying       |                            | 1.8 – 2.0    | 2.5 – 4.0                 | ???                           |
| By products                |                            | DDGS         | Lignin<br>C5 fraction     | Thermal /<br>electrical power |



# Cellulosic ethanol – Status quo

## Achieved

- *Stable, proven processes*
- *Plant in industrial design available*
- *Industrial product quality requirements*

## Unresolved

- *Insufficient legal framework to support cellulosic ethanol*
- *High investment costs compared to G1 plants*
- *Still higher production costs compared to G1 product*
- *Raw material availability and costs*
- *„First of its kind“ Issues*

# Special downstream processing solutions

| For first and second generation bioethanol

GIVEN CONTEXT

**Cutting process energy consumption improves the plant feasibility.**

Technological measures to improve energy efficiency of cellulosic ethanol plant:

1. VB Multipressure distillation

→ minimizing energy demand for distillation

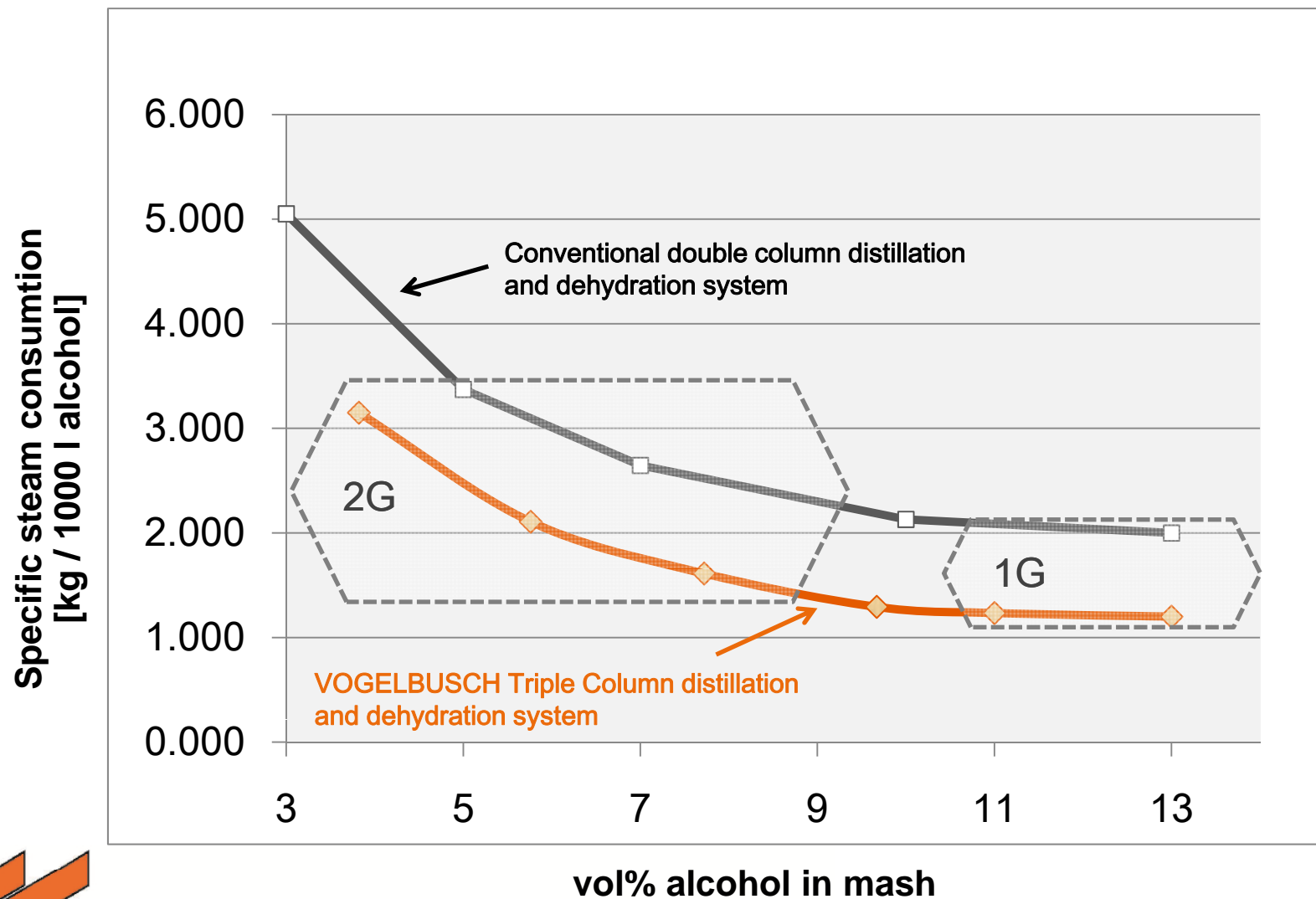
2. VB Zero steam evaporator heated by dryer's vapor

→ minimizing energy demand for stillage treatment

**Saving energy = Saving costs!**

# Vogelbusch Multipressure distillation I

| Influence of alcohol content in mash on steam demand





# Vogelbusch Multi-pressure distillation II

| For first and second generation bioethanol

3 pressure stages for threefold usage of life steam

- ▶ vacuum
- ▶ atmospheric
- ▶ overpressure

Distillation in split mash columns

- ▶ vacuum
- ▶ atmospheric

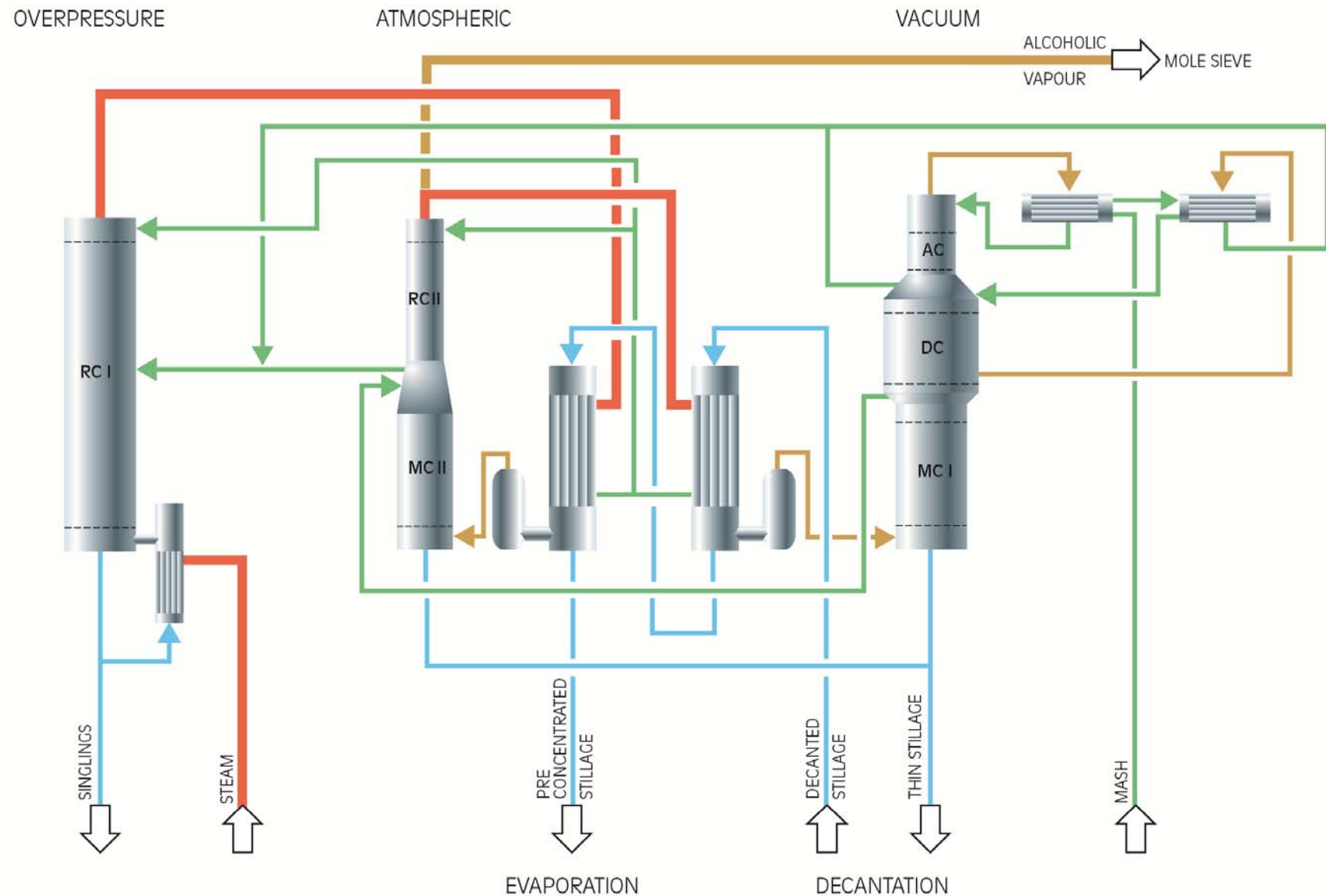
Rectification in split rectifiers

- ▶ atmospheric
- ▶ overpressure

Hydrous alcohol vapors fed directly to molecular sieve unit

Split mash columns can be used for separate feed streams  
(hybrid plants)

# Vogelbusch Multi-pressure distillation III



# Vogelbusch zero steam evaporator

| For first and second generation bioethanol

- ▶ Evaporators are used for concentration of decanted residues from distillation
- ▶ Dryers are used for
  - ▶ DDGS in first generation plants
  - ▶ Lignin in second generation plants
- ▶ Dryer's vents are a valuable heating source for evaporation
- ▶ State-of-the art indirect heated dryers produce vapors with a wet bulb temperature of 90 – 98 °C
- ▶ Depending on wet bulb temperature 50 – 80 % of total dryer's vapors can be utilized as heating source in evaporators
- ▶ 1G Plants: multi-effect evaporators are heated completely by dryer's vapors without any additional live steam
- ▶ 2G Plants: considerable reduction of live steam for evaporation of effluents



# Conclusions

## Energy efficiency

- Thermal integration by special downstream solutions can save up to 40% of live steam

## Additional income

- It's not enough to be thermally selfsufficient!!
- Additional income by selling (more) surplus energy

## CO<sub>2</sub> reduction

- Considerable reduction of carbon footprint of the plant

## ROI

- ROI for thermal integration in downstream typically within 2 – 3 years

Thank you for your attention.

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