

BioMotion Tour 2009 – Here we go!
7 countries- 35 cities- 33 days

On the road with sustainable, renewable fuel in the tank

Werlte – biofuels are on the move. This can be taken literally, because over the coming weeks, a fleet of vehicles will set off travelling right across Europe, powered by different biofuels. These include not just the well-established fuels such as vegetable oil, biodiesel and ethanol, but also next-generation fuels such as biogas.

The BioMotion tour starts on Tuesday 13 October 2009 in Paris. It continues across Belgium (where there'll be a stopover at the European Commission offices), the Netherlands, Hungary, Romania and finally to Germany. The finale will take place on 12 November in Hanover at the Agritechnica exhibition. There will be more than 50 events during this Europe-wide information campaign, highlighting the subject of sustainable mobility and biofuels.

The tour is organised within the framework of the EU project 'BioMotion - Biofuels in Motion', in which six institutions from France, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Hungary and Germany have worked in close cooperation.

During the tour, there will be chances for skills and experiences exchanges on the use of biofuels, and a central theme will be a demonstration of the possibilities and importance of making use of biofuels. Here, selected lighthouse projects (beacons) will be demonstrated.

An important objective of the BioMotion project is that regions with less-developed markets should profit from those which have already made good progress in this respect. In rural areas in particular, biofuels make a contribution to regional value creation.

So, what does the strategy 'from the field to the fuel-tank' look like in practice? Different examples show how biomass can be used efficiently and sustainably in the production of biofuels. For example, an initiative involving decentralised agricultural distilleries in North Rhine-Westphalia manufactures fuels based on bioethanol (E85) from cereal and maize, and markets the product under the label E85 Regional. The energy for the ethanol production is supplied from a biogas plant. In Wendland, a rural area in the north-eastern corner of Lower Saxony, it is even possible to fill up on biogas. With a methane concentration of 96%, it meets the quality standards of natural gas, with the important distinction that biogas can always be manufactured from new using crops or agricultural waste products. The second-generation will soon be ready for market launch and will play an important role, as can be seen in a production plant in the French town of Lille. In the Netherlands, strategic initiatives such as the 100,000 vehicle programme should reduce the CO₂ output in the motorcar sector.

These and further projects are set up with the intention of bolstering the efforts of local and regional networks, communities and enterprises on their way towards sustainable mobility.

The countries of the European Union want to see further development in the biofuels market. They are aware of the important contribution that can be made towards mitigating the effects of climate change and ensuring security of energy supply. The production and supply of raw materials for biofuels, as well as biofuel manufacture itself, are therefore faced with new challenges. The BioMotion project will indicate new solutions for the optimisation of biofuel usage. Additional information can be obtained on the internet by clicking www.biomotiontour.eu. Check this out or come and join in the tour.

Further information can be found on the website: www.3-n.info and obtained from the 3N - Kompetenzzentrum Kompaniestr. 1, 49757 Werlte, Tel.: 0 59 51/ 98 93 – 0

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