March 2016

JetBlue Becomes RSB Member

As the first U.S. airline to become an RSB member, JetBlue will participate in discussions relating to the aviation sector.

"JetBlue is joining the RSB as renewable biofuels will become increasingly more important for aviation to continue to grow responsibly," said Sophia Mendelsohn, head of sustainability, JetBlue. "Science has given us drop-in biofuels, which means there will be no change to our engines or systems - and no compromise to safety. There are no silver bullets when it comes to finding the right biofuel, so we are reaching out for partners; we are all in this together."

News of this was covered in Yahoo News, Business Wire, Energy Global, and others.

RSB Certification Applicant AltAir Providing Renewable Fuels to United at LAX Airport

United Airlines made history recently by becoming the first U.S. airline to begin use of commercial-scale volumes of sustainable aviation biofuel in partnership with AltAir Fuels (AltAir) for regularly scheduled flights from Los Angeles International Airport. AltAir is currently pursuing certification under the RSB.

"RSB welcomes AltAir into the certification process and looks forward to the results soon," said Barbara Bramble, RSB's Board Chair. "We are excited to work with AltAir and United to further the use of sustainable biofuels in order to truly make an impact on greenhouse gas emissions in the aviation sector."

News of this was covered in Biodiesel Magazine, PR Newswire, Financial News UK, and others.

Sustainable Sugarcane Program Launched in Brazil

Farmer cooperative SOCICANA and RSB launched "Programa Cana Sustentável" to help smallholder producers implement sustainable practices in line with the RSB standard. The program aims to improve land management and the quality of raw materials, as well as promoting better business. RSB training meetings for farmers began in March. RSB's work with Smallholders is supported by the Boeing Corporate Citizenship Program and the Swiss Government.

BIODEX Tunisia Earns RSB Certification

BIODEX-SA is the first company to collect waste oils and transform them into biodiesel in Africa, as well as the first in Tunisia to earn RSB certification. The BIODEX-SA, biodiesel plant converts used cooking oil to biodiesel,
which is then sold to the European market.

"BIODEX-SA is proud to be the first RSB certified organization in Tunisia. RSB certification shows our commitment to respecting the sustainability criteria of waste and the environment," said Pr. Dr. Mounir Bezzarga, BIODEX-SA's CEO.

News of this was covered in Biofuels Journal, Advanced Biofuels USA, Agwired Energy, and others.

New RSB Certified Operator Logo

RSB now has a special certified operator logo to help make the distinction between support for RSB as an organization (membership) and the actual implementation of the RSB Standard in operations (certification). We developed the new logo to help certified operators promote their sustainability commitment to their stakeholders.

The new certified logo will replace the institutional RSB logo that certified operators may have been using in the past. For more details, see our Communications and Claims procedure.

News From Members

We have added a new section to feature news from RSB members. Click button below to share your news:

Share Your News!

Tyton BioEnergy Announces Technology Breakthrough

RSB member Tyton BioEnergy Systems filed a patent application for a new method and system of converting oil extracted from plant biomass or seeds directly into jet fuel using its proprietary processing technology. Tyton aims to scale-up and commercialize its modular, low-cost plant-to-jet-fuel technology after completing several more development steps.

New UNCTAD Report - 2nd Generation Biofuel Markets

UNCTAD’s report, Second-Generation Biofuel Markets: State of Play, Trade and Developing Country Perspectives, presents an up-to-date overview of the market including RSB’s iLUC standard and smallholder certification.
Investment Opportunity: Smallholder Farmers to Supply Galapagos Islands with Biodiesel

To conserve the Galapagos World Heritage Site from further diesel spills from shipping accidents, which have caused the death of 10,000 iguanas and other marine species, the Ecuadorian Government started the "Zero Fossil Fuel Initiative for Galapagos Islands". The project is looking for investment to ensure sustainability and RSB certification.

Download this PDF to read more about how you can support this project for RSB certification and help the almost 700 small scale farmer families who collect and transport jatropha nuts from already existing 'living fences' and produce biodiesel for the Galapagos Islands.

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Job Opening: RSB Southern Africa Regional Representative

RSB is seeking a highly motivated individual based in South Africa, with at least 10 years' experience in supply-chain sustainability, to coordinate the uptake of the RSB standard in Southern Africa and ensure the effective implementation of RSB field projects and stakeholder engagement activities. Closing date: 1 April 2016. Download job description and application details here.

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New Standards Guide and 2016 Standards Workplan Now Online

Our new Standards Guide summarizes what you need to know about the RSB standard and is now online.

Also online now is our 2016 standards workplan which highlights RSB's key standards projects for the year.

RSB's new certification website section is also live now. Stay tuned for an update on the Standards website section coming soon!

RSB is also currently working on the revision of the Principles & Criteria document. At the moment, RSB members are discussing the revisions within the seven chambers and approval is planned for July.

Become an RSB member to have a say!

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Upcoming Events

Below is a list of upcoming (and ongoing) events that RSB staff are hosting, speaking at, or attending. Visit our events web page for updates.

5-6 April 2016 - 9th International Conference on Bio-based Materials, Cologne, Germany
Visit RSB’s table and talk to Melanie Williams who will be participating in this conference where topics will focus on bio-based building blocks and polymers, biorefineries and industrial biotechnology and how policy and markets affect the bioeconomy. For a 10% discount on registration for RSB’s members and friends use this code when registering: RSB16.
4-6 May 2016 - **RSB Course**, High Wycombe, United Kingdom

We look forward to welcoming auditors, consultants or industry representatives at this RSB course. Take this opportunity to learn about recent RSB standards updates and their practical implementation, and meet with other professionals engaged with the implementation of sustainability standards.

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17-19 April 2016 - **BIO World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology**, San Diego, CA

Join RSB's Board Chair Barbara Bramble at this conference by registering here and use special discount code "CHM" for RSB members, certified operators and friends who are attending for the first time. *(Note: this must be your first time attending this conference for code to work).*

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9-11 May 2016 - **5th Biobased World 2016: Chemicals and Plastics**, Bangkok, Thailand

Rolf Hogan will be speaking at this conference on a panel with RSB certified operator, Advanced Biochemical (Thailand) Co. They will be discussing Epicerol(R) applications, environmental benefits, clean tech production and other timely biochemical sustainability topics.

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24-26 May 2016 - **Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council Summit**, Washington, DC

Join Barbara Bramble, RSB Board Chair, at this gathering of over 300 leaders in sustainable procurement for an opportunity to share best practices, build valuable relationships with thought leaders from around the United States and world, and influence the future of sustainable purchasing.
TBD May 2016 - Sustainability of Bioenergy and Environment, Beijing, China
Stay tuned for date and details of this event.