



RSB Newsletter

December 2014

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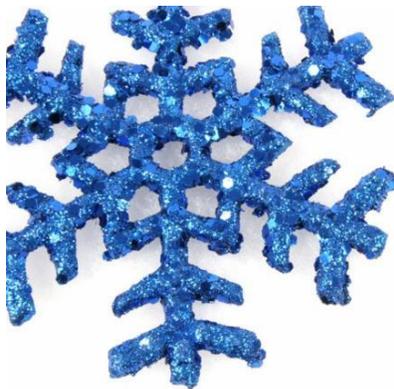
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RSB Highlights

Happy Holidays



Best holiday wishes from our RSB family to yours and may 2015 be a wonderful year for all of you

Project Solaris Launch South Africa

SkyNRG, Sunchem SA, Boeing and South African Airlines (SAA) officially launched Project Solaris, an initiative working with smallholders to develop sustainable jet fuel from Solaris a nicotine-free tobacco plant developed by SunChem. SAA is committed to supplying 50% of its fuel needs in Johannesburg airport with RSB-certified bio-jet by 2023. The plant's first harvest will occur this month, and oil from its seeds could be converted into jet fuel as early as next year. SAA plans to conduct a test flight with the fuel as soon as practicable.

New Members

Welcome to RSB's newest member!

AltAir Fuels

USA

Chamber 2

See RSB's complete list of members [here](#).

Call for Public Comments

RSB Certification

Applicant:

Sapphire Energy

Location/Region(s):

Columbus, New Mexico, USA

Feedstock/Biofuel:

Algae biomass to Green crude oil

Comment period

closes 24 December 2014.

RSB Certification

Applicant:

Advanced Biochemical (Thailand) Company Limited

Location/Region(s):

Map Ta Phut, Thailand

Feedstock/Biomaterial:

Glycerine to bio-based epichlorohydrin

Comment period



Ian Cruickshank from South African Airways being interviewed by media at Project Solaris field, South Africa.

Photo Credit: Rolf Hogan

The launch event at the farms growing Solaris in Limpopo province was attended by South African government officials as well as the governments of Italy, Netherlands and the USA. Collaboration on scaling up the initiative across South Africa to meet the volumes required by SAA and ensuring sustainable rural developed was discussed by participants.



Project Solaris seeds after being dried.

Photo Credit: Rolf Hogan, RSB

The event was widely covered on South African media and RSB Executive Director Rolf Hogan stressed the importance of sustainable water management and the need to support

closes 30 December 2014.

Please send all public comments to info@rsb.org

RSB Certified Operators

For a complete list of RSB certified operators, [click here.](#)

smallholders to meet RSB certification. Project Solaris is part of the RSB Smallholder Program supported by Boeing and the Swiss Government. [More information...](#)



*Samantha Bartle from Project Solaris speaking with Donald Sekwati from Kopano cooperative, Limpopo.
Photo Credit: Rolf Hogan, RSB*

Looking for your Smallholder Photos and Links!

A new RSB Smallholder Program website will be online in January 2015. We are looking for RSB members' projects with smallholder farmers for featuring on the new website. Share your work and send us links and photos!

Tracking Biofuel Feedstock Sustainability Data

RSB and Elements Software are working together to help RSB members track their biofuel feedstock. Both organizations are recommending a set of online tools to RSB members that ease the management of sustainability data as product travels through the supply chain. Elements is a web based traceability platform that will help RSB Participating Operators (POs) comply with the EU Renewable Energy Directive (RED). Sustainability data is collected and stored online as the biofuel travels through each stage of the supply chain. [Read more...](#) or contact [David Kennan](#) at Elements for details.

Open Position for RSB Standards Director

RSB is looking for a Standards Director to oversee and coordinate the development and maintenance of RSB standards and procedures. This full time position is located in Geneva, Switzerland with the possibility of working remotely in other



location depending on experience of candidate. Closing date for applications: 5 January 2015. For details, [Download full job description here.](#)

Upcoming RSB Auditor Training

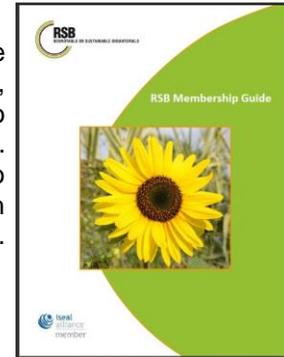


The next RSB auditor training will be held 21-23 January 2015 in Viterbo, Italy. RSB trainings are open to all auditors, consultants, biomaterial producers and users, and others interested in obtaining a deeper understanding of the RSB requirements. Contact [Mr. Liviu Amariei](#) to register by 20 December 2014. [Download the](#)

[flyer.](#)

RSB Membership

We had recent inquiries asking for more information about RSB membership, benefits of becoming a member, how to become a member, application form, etc. Thus, we would like to share our "Guide to RSB Membership"! Feel free to share with anyone interested in membership. [Download it now.](#)



Smallholder Project

Brazil

The Macaúba project in Montes Claros is in the process of selecting smallholder families to participate in the RSB certification and a pre-assessment exercise will be completed by the end of the year. A workshop with the participating smallholders is planned for February to introduce the RSB smallholder standard and discuss the first results from the pre-assessment. RSB is partnering with Smallholder Acceleration and REDD+ Program, a multi-stakeholder partnership of organizations who all share an interest in supporting smallholders globally to produce commodity crops sustainably, to select and implement a second smallholder project in Brazil. The selection process is ongoing; stay tuned in the next newsletter.



Macaúba Collection at Smallholder Farm in Brazil. Photo Credit: Aurea Nardelli, RSB

RSB Standards

Revision of the RSB Principles & Criteria!

The RSB has been revising its certification system to make it simpler, clearer and more cost-effective (see below). This in-depth revision will culminate in 2015 with the revision of the RSB sustainability Principles & Criteria (P&Cs). Based on the learning from early days and several rounds of multi-stakeholder consultation (public and RSB members), we aim to further improve the readability and practicality of our sustainability requirements while staying true to our original aspirations to keep the RSB Standard as one of the most credible sustainability seals for biofuels and biomaterials. Interested in participating and shaping Version 3.0 of the RSB Principles & Criteria? Contact info@rsb.org. Also stay tuned on www.rsb.org for updates!



Did you know RSB's standards have been streamlined over the last year leading to some impressive results? We revised and merged 22 standards and procedures documents, created 6 new ones, bringing current total to 19.

- Total number of documents cut by: 33%
- Average reduction of document length: 35%
- Risk Management Standard reduction: 77%

RSB's list of prohibited chemicals has been updated. To view the entire list, [click here](#).



Now available: RSB EU RED version of the [Standard for Traceability \(Chain of Custody\)](#)

RSB in the News

Elements Software and RSB Partnership in the News

The partnership was the subject of several online articles in November, including Biomass Magazine, Biofuels Digest and Biodiesel Magazine due to RSB and Elements Software working together to help RSB members track their biofuel feedstocks. [Read more...](#)

IUCN Report Uses RSB as Framework for Sustainable Biofuels

IUCN recently published a report called "A Global Assessment of the Environmental and Social Impacts Caused by the Production and Use of Biofuels". The report mentioned RSB, WWF and Ecofys' Low Indirect Impacts Methodology development. The report's authors also considered RSB as the framework for sustainable biofuels that meet social, economic and environmental criteria. [Read more...](#)



Lanzatech and RSB in the News

RSB featured in an article on Cogeneration and Onsite Power Magazine (COSPP) about "Capturing Carbon to Feed the World". [Read more...](#)

RSB at Recent Events

Khoo Hock Aun from RSB's Board of Directors spoke at the [ICAO Seminar](#) on International Aviation and the Environment on 29 October in Kuala Lumpur. On 30 October he spoke at the [Singapore International Energy Week Roundtable](#) on the Water Energy Food Nexus where he discussed the RSB Principles and Criteria as they affect water and food security.

Doris Cellarius from RSB's Chamber 6 recently represented the Sierra Club at the IUCN World Parks Congress in Australia. Doris made a presentation on a [new report on biofuels released at the Congress by IUCN](#) highlighting what RSB has been doing relative to some of the recommendations. The report noted the need for more assistance to smallholders, so she described RSB's new smallholder projects. The WWF and IUCN evaluations comparing of biofuels certification systems, in which RSB was judged highest performing, were also presented.

Barbara Bramble, RSB's Board Chair, among the other high level policy makers, represented RSB in the [Cookstove Future Summit](#) hosted by Hillary Clinton in New York, USA. RSB made a pledge to promote clean renewable energy for cooking and agriculture, and clean cook stoves. This pledge will be implemented through RSB's smallholder program.

Rolf Hogan, RSB's Executive Director, participated in the [Project Solaris](#) launch event in South Africa (see Highlights section above). He also participated in a Sustainable Energy for All event during the [Global Bioenergy Partnership \(GBEP\)](#) meeting at the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome, Italy in mid-November. The event was an opportunity to strengthen collaboration with governments and organizations participating in GBEP and SE4ALL and promote RSB's standard and activities.

Melanie Williams, RSB's Regional Director, spoke at the [17th annual F.O. Licht's World](#)

roundtable discussion, "Ensuring the Sustainability of Biofuels and Biomaterials". She also attended the [Register of Biofuels Origination \(RBO\) Conference](#) and General Assembly in November. Melanie also participated in the early December [European Bioplastics Conference](#) in Brussels.

Matt Rudolf, RSB's Business Development Director, attended the [BSR Conference](#) in New York in November.

Aurea Nardelli, RSB's South America Director, presented at a workshop for the finance sector, organized by the ISEAL in Sao Paulo, Brazil, where important banks with activities in Brazil participated. Also in December, Aurea was in Montes Claros for smallholder project field activities in partnership with UFMG -Federal University of Minas Gerais.

Sébastien Haye, RSB's Standards Director, participated in the ISEAL Effectiveness Days in London, UK at the beginning of November. Sébastien attended a specific workshop focused on assurance systems, where ISEAL members shared experience about their work with auditors, certification bodies and other assurance providers. As an ISEAL Member, the RSB is developing its assurance system in alignment with [ISEAL Assurance Code](#).

RSB had a booth at the [9th European Bioplastics Conference held in Brussels, Belgium](#) early in December. It was a great opportunity to present the RSB standard and certification system to the bioplastics sector and there was a lot of interest from participants. The European Bioplastics Association is a member of RSB and vice-versa.

Upcoming Events

Below is a list of upcoming (and ongoing) events that RSB staff are speaking at or attending. [Visit our events web page](#) for updates. Hope to see you soon!

21-23 January 2015 - RSB Auditor Training, Viterbor, Italy

Contact [Mr. Liviu Amariei](#) to register for the course by 20 December. For more details, [download the flyer](#).

2-4 March 2015 - World Bio Markets (WBM), Amsterdam

Join RSB's Executive Director, Rolf Hogan, and Regional Director Dr. Melanie Williams, at the World Bio Markets conference in Amsterdam. [More information...](#)

13-15 April 2015 - 8th International Conference on Bio-based Materials, Cologne, Germany

Hear RSB's Melanie Williams speak on the topic: "Ensuring bio-based chemicals are sustainable". This conference is for European and Asian bio-based chemicals, plastics and composite industries to have an opportunity to present and discuss their latest developments and strategies. [More information...](#)

15 April 2015 - 4th Annual Platts EU Biofuels Seminar, Geneva, Switzerland

RSB's Melanie Williams will be speaking on the panel "GHG changes and 2020; the challenges facing Europe's biofuels". The panel will be discussing topics such as, "How do recent changes to policy impact Europe?" and "What will individual states do post-2020?" [More information...](#)

25-28 April 2015 - 8th Annual World Congress of Industrial Biotechnology-2015 (ibio-2015), Nanjing, China

This conference is a custom designed Industrial Biotechnology conference focused on a wide range of essential themes from fundamental science to industrial commercialization. It is designed to let scientists and business executives from the different fields of biotechnology to present their latest work. It covers the recent updates on the new products and technologies for green economy. [More](#)

Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB)

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