



PRESS RELEASE

Biomass: AREVA invests in bio-coal

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The AREVA group, a major player in renewable energies, has announced the acquisition of a technology enabling the production of bio-coal. Based on the Thermya* torrefaction process, this unique technology, currently being deployed commercially, produces plant fuel from biomass which can replace fossil coal used in the production of thermal energy and electricity.

This operation enables AREVA to consolidate its position as a solutions provider for energy with less CO₂. It is in line with the group's strategy to broaden its offer in the field of renewable energies by placing a stronger emphasis on technology.

Based in the southwest of France, a team of around twenty people already forms part of this activity.

Luc Oursel, President and CEO of AREVA, declared: "This acquisition strengthens our position in the field of renewable energies, and establishes AREVA on the global bio-coal market, which has considerable potential. Thanks to the acquisition of this unique torrefaction technology, and on the strength of its subsidiary AREVA Bioenergy 35 years of experience, the group is particularly well-placed to capture a significant share of the bio-coal market."

As an industrial pioneer in the field of bioenergy, AREVA is the leader on the market for turnkey biomass plants and has played a role in the installation of more than 5 000 MW of electric power worldwide.

** The torrefaction (or depolymerization) of biomass is a thermo-chemical process aiming to eliminate water and alter part of the organic matter of biomass to break down its fibers. Torrefied biomass (or bio-coal) offers a number of benefits, including high energy density, hydrophobia, and increased grindability.*

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MORE ABOUT

AREVA supplies solutions for power generation with less carbon. Its expertise and unwavering insistence on safety, security, transparency and ethics are setting the standard, and its responsible development is anchored in a process of continuous improvement.

Ranked first in the global nuclear power industry, AREVA's unique integrated offering to utilities covers every stage of the fuel cycle, nuclear reactor design and construction, and related services. The group is also expanding its operations to renewable energies – wind, solar, bioenergies, hydrogen and storage – to be one of the leaders in this sector worldwide.

With these two major offers, AREVA's 48,000 employees are helping to supply ever safer, cleaner and more economical energy to the greatest number of people.