

## **P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

The Board of E D & F Man Holdings Limited is pleased to announce its strategic investment in Renewable Energy Group Inc. (REG), the leading biodiesel company in the United States.

E D & F Man Holdings Limited, is an employee owned international trading company established in 1783 with 4850 employees in 70 countries and is a world leader in the trading of sugar, molasses, palm oil, coffee, cocoa and ethanol. Its North American subsidiary, Westway Holdings Corporation, is a major trader of molasses, ethanol and fats and oils, the largest U.S. liquid feed manufacturer with 33 sites, and a major provider of bulk liquid storage with 13 terminals and its French subsidiary, Safic-Alcan Commodities is a major trader of palm and coconut oils.

REG is a new entity being formed through certain asset and personnel contributions by the Ralston, Iowa-based West Central Cooperative, InterWest, L.C. (an affiliate of West Central), and the Renewable Energy Group LLC. Through these entities, REG possesses over ten years of experience producing, marketing and selling biodiesel and estimates that it currently markets approximately 45% of the biodiesel sold in the United States. The company intends to build and operate four biodiesel production facilities of its own over the next two years and to oversee construction of up to ten third party facilities over the next three years. Last year REG completed construction of a 30 million gallon per year capacity plant for SoyMor Biodiesel, LLC (Albert Lea, Minnesota) and has recently completed construction of a 30 million gallon per year capacity plant for Western Iowa Energy, LLC (Wall Lake, Iowa). Most recently, REG broke ground on a 30 million gallon per year capacity plant for Central Iowa Energy LLC (Newton, Iowa).

This investment will expand our presence in the U.S. biodiesel industry and provide E D & F Man Holdings Ltd. with the opportunity to supply palm oil and fats, market glycerine, and provide third party storage to REG owned and REG managed plants.

Please direct any inquiries to Victoria Sabrio at 504-636-4320.

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