



Biodiesel industry collaboration receives military funding for research

Congressman Latham announces Renewable Energy Group, Inc., General Atomics, Iowa State University, awarded additional \$1.65 million for “Battlefield Clutter – Waste to Energy” project

(Ames, IA, January 31, 2008) –Energy independence in the U.S. military received another boost as Congress approved a \$1.65 million appropriation to continue the “Battlefield Clutter – Waste to Energy” project.

The three year U.S. Army-sponsored project is designed to study the potential for military waste plastics to be dissolved in biodiesel and then burned in electrical generators at military bases at home and abroad.

“Iowa has already established itself as a champion of renewable energy production. With initiatives such as this we will continue to lead and teach the world in the countless potential for renewable energy resources that are planet friendly,” said Congressman Tom Latham during an announcement at the Renewable Energy Group, Inc. headquarters in Ames, Iowa. “Increasing the viability of biodiesel for use by our military will both increase our energy independence and enhance our national security. I am proud to have helped secure federal resources to advance this research.”

Partners in the collaboration include lead contractor, General Atomics, who specializes in diversified research, development, and manufacturing in energy, defense, and other advanced technologies; Renewable Energy Group, Inc., a leading biodiesel producer and marketer headquartered in Ames, Iowa; Iowa State University’s chemistry and mechanical engineering departments; and West Central, the farmer-owned cooperative and majority stockholder of Renewable Energy Group, Inc. who is supplying administrative support for the project.

“The results of this study could have profound impact on the logistics and supply chain for our military,” said Renewable Energy Group, Inc. CEO, Jeff Stroburg during an announcement at the REG headquarters in Ames. “REG is proud to be a part of helping offer our military’s brave men and women a renewable source of fuel for their electrical power source while reducing waste and protecting the environment.”

Congressmen Tom Latham (R-IA) as well as Congressman Leonard Boswell (D-IA) and Senators Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Charles Grassley (R-IA) worked with the collaboration during the grant submission and approval processes.

“We greatly appreciate the work of our Congressmen and Senators to move this project forward as we develop new uses for biodiesel and help reduce our nation’s dependence on foreign oil,” Stroburg added.



For more information or photos from the announcement, please contact Alicia Clancy at Alicia.clancy@regfuel.com or 515-239-8118

To learn more about Renewable Energy Group, Inc. please visit www.regfuel.com

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About Renewable Energy Group, Inc.

Renewable Energy Group, Inc., (REG) is a biodiesel industry sales leader and is a full-service biodiesel company offering plant management, risk management, raw material procurement, plant construction management, and biodiesel production, sales and marketing services. REG's network of biodiesel production facilities includes a wholly owned biodiesel plant and management of third party-owned plants. Renewable Energy Group, Inc., markets biodiesel to fuel distributors and customers in many industries including on-highway fleets, original equipment manufacturers, maritime, military, home heating and agriculture industries.

About General Atomics

General Atomics (GA) is a San Diego-based innovation firm with a 50-year history of successful solutions for environmental, energy, and defense challenges. GA specializes in performing innovative R&D and transforming conceptual results into practical systems. GA has already proven the process of using plastic to supplement the energy value of biodiesel for power generation, and has also developed improved biodiesel production methods