





ASAREGIONENS UTVECKLING AN VAASA REGION DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

Työ- ja elinkeinoministeriö Arbets- och näringsministeriet Pohjanmaan liitto **Regional Council** of Ostrobothnia

Österbottens förbund

# **Research Challenges in a Gas Economy Framework**

### **Cataldo De Blasio**

Assistant Professor in Energy Technology; Adjunct Professor, Docent, in Process Design with Environmental **Engineering Applications.** Energy Technology Laboratory, Department of Chemical Engineering, Abo Akademi University Rantakatu 2, 65101 VAASA



Gas CoE - National Gas Cluster of Exellence









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# From the Availability to the **Delivery**

Potential to grow the gas economy in the region



### The framework for a Gas Economy in the Region

Availability:

- Landfill Gas
  Systems
- Biogas
  Production
- LNG Systems
- Possibility to use wind and energy to produce syngas
- Biomass to
  Syngas, thermal treatment.





# Why Gas?

- Gas Offers a common denominator between the different available options
- Gas can be produced by several kinds of feedstock
- It has several positive aspects regarding transportation
- Gas is indeed a veicle for transporting energy
- In the same way that money transport value



## Why Gas? Additional positive aspects.

From the gasification processes we have e discrete number of different compounds and ...:

- They are not too many
- The concentration and gas composition can be adjusted by using different conditions.

In SCWG, high temperature/high res time:

- More H2, CO2 and CO Lower temp/lower res-time
- More methane, ethane, ethene



C. De Blasio et al. J Chem Technol Biotechnol 2016; **91**: 2664–2678



## When do we use gas?

#### One example: peak demand.



#### Heat Demand [MW] - Average day of January

C. De Blasio. 2013. CHP Power Plants Optimization. Aalto University reports.



#### El spot price [Euro/MWh] - Average day of June



C. De Blasio. 2013. CHP Power Plants Optimization. Aalto University reports.

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## **Specific Developments in Research**

Within Gas CoE – National Gas Cluster of Excellence 1.1.2017-31.12.2018

#### Goals:

- Improvements in Gas Production
- Improvements in Gas Utilization
- Improvements in Gas management
- Proof of concept and demonstrations

#### Partners:

- Research done with companies
- Research done with university partners



#### Example 1. Gas Production from Biomass

## Supercritical Water Gasification of Biomass, SCWG.



De Blasio et al. Journal of Chemical Technolog and Biotechnology. Volume 91, Issue 10 October 2016. Pages 2664–2678.





Example 2. Improvements in gas utilization and research done with partners

## **Technobothnia**

- Gas (system) related demonstrations and experimental activities in laboratory scale
- Serves both educational and experimental activities





Example 3. Improvements in gas utilization and research done with companies

## Åbo Akademi (Energy Technology) - Wärtsilä

- Compression of boil-off gas from LNG Tank on boats.
- Measures to utilize online gas quality for engine operation.
- Simultaneous assessment of heat and mass transfer in non-steady state conditions.





Example 4. Improvements in gas quality and processing. Research done with University Partners.

# Advanced *power plant engine technology* for future energy systems in VEBIC (Experimental gas research and demo activities).

#### Flexible power generation Focus of engine and fuel research

- Two medium-speed gas and diesel engines
- One to three high-speed gas and diesel engines

## Activity plan and proposals

- Biogas & NG
- Various gas blends
- Test biofuels (Gas and Liquid) produced by Thermal Processing, SCWG, HTL,..
- catalyst elements
- Particulate and pollutants abatement in gas engines





## "Living Lab"-activities

More efficient utilization of new infra in R&D activities

- Local gas supply
- Imported gas
- Biogas-natural gasinteraction
- Local gas distribution
- Storage (LG, CG) and conversion activities
- End users





## Contacts

### Project coordinator: Åbo Akademi University (ÅAU):

Energy Technology, ÅAU, Vaasa Professor **Margareta Björklund-Sänkiaho** Assistant Professor **Cataldo De Blasio** 

Thermal and Flow Engineering, ÅAU, Turku Professor **Henrik Saxén** 

Project coordinator: **Satu Laitila,** CLL

### Project partners: University of Vaasa (UWA):

Energy Technology, UWA, Vaasa Professor **Seppo Niemi** Project Researcher **Kirsi Spoof-Tuomi** 

#### **NOVIA University of Applied Sciences:**

R&D Manager **John Dahlbacka** Project Engineer **Cynthia Söderbacka** 



## Thank you.

## **Questions are welcome.**