

AQUAFLOW

Wild algae extraction, conversion and refinement

Media Release

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Aquaflow wild algae converted to key jet fuel component – world first breakthrough

BLENHEIM, NEW ZEALAND: New Zealand-based Aquaflow Bionomic Corporation says the world's first test flight using wild-algae based jet fuel may be nearer than many pundits think

The company announced today that its wild algae has been successfully refined to produce the world's first sample of synthetic paraffinic kerosene (SPK) converted from compounds derived from Aquaflow's wild algae. SPK, when blended with petroleum-based kerosene, can be used to power commercial and military aircraft.

"This is a major breakthrough and confirms that wild and naturally occurring algae and its components can produce quality, sustainable aviation fuel," says Aquaflow director, Nick Gerritsen.

Gerritsen says the sample meets Jet A-1 specifications and, when blended with petroleum-based Jet A-1, could be used by commercial aircraft. The algae was converted using technology from United States-based UOP LLC, a Honeywell company. UOP utilized its proprietary hydroprocessing technology to convert the sample to SPK and confirmed that the sample meets the critical specifications for SPK including density, flash point and freeze point.

The wild algae sample also yielded a sample of diesel fuel.

"We are a company focused upon developing the sustainable production of green crude, similar to that which could be expected from mineral crude oil, and combining that with waste treatment and clean water production," comments Gerritsen.

Gerritsen says this announcement is a significant milestone for the aviation industry and supports the identification of algae-based fuels solutions by Boeing and leading airlines.

Wild algae grows in wastewater and is continuously harvested, one of the great benefits of algae over other land based crops, and it doesn't compete with food crops or agricultural land.

Aquaflow sources its wild algae from the local oxidation ponds in Marlborough on New Zealand's South Island – essentially recycling a waste product.

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