

Hydro Nation Water Innovation Service Helping Argent Energy Secure a New Market Opportunity in Scotland's Biofuel Sector

The Hydro Nation Water Innovation Service

The Hydro Nation Water Innovation Service (HNWIS), established by the Scottish Government through Scottish Enterprise and Highlands and Islands Enterprise, identifies innovative Scottish companies, particularly SMEs, and supports them along the innovation path from concept to commercialisation. The partnership, HNWIS, of AECOM, WRc and UK Water Ltd is delivering a three-year programme.

Further information on the service can be found at www.hnwis.scot/

Argent Energy

Argent Energy specialise in the production of biodiesel. Established in 2001 and acquired by John Swire & Sons (Green Investments) Ltd in 2013, Argent Energy is a privately owned company with operations in Scotland and North West England.

By producing environmental fuel, Argent Energy's aim is to continue contributing to the global battle against climate change and help the UK maximise the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from transport.

Argent has two manufacturing facilities for waste-based biodiesel with the production capacity of 145 million litres per year.

Tackling the Harshesht Waste

Traditional biodiesel production requires material with a Free Fatty Acid (FFA) content of less than 10% FFA and material that is clean

of physical contaminants. Thanks to their unique new process Argent Energy are able to treat and process highly degraded feedstock with high levels of water and physical contaminants and FFA of anything up to 100%. This is not normal in the biodiesel sector and will allow oils that are old and highly degraded to be available for production where traditionally they were not, like fats oils and grease (FOG) from Scotland's sewerage system and food and drink sectors.



How HNWIS is helping Argent Energy

HNWIS has helped set out the market opportunity for the utilisation of this poor quality FOG by producing a market research report detailing the size of the market, business drivers and potential barriers to implementation along with solutions to these barriers. The report included input from WRc's FOG experts, developing several business models based on expert and international experience of similar business models to exploit the market opportunity and a relevant legislative review. The report also included the benefits to Scotland's sewerage infrastructure like reduced sewer blockages,



reduced corrosion and damage to wastewater pumping stations and treatment works.

HNWIS also provided a presentation summarising the report for use by Argent Energy when promoting the new market opportunity with potential partners.

Argent Energy has several locations in the UK:

Motherwell

Our Flagship plant in Scotland supplies diesel to Scotland and the North of England.



Stanlow

Our new state of the art biodiesel manufacturing site commissioned in 2016 and capable of producing 75 000 tonne annually.



Argent Oil Terminal

Storage, blending and fuel distribution facility based in Ellesmere Port.



Our new state of the art biodiesel manufacturing site commissioned in 2016 and capable of producing 75 000 tonne annually.

“HNWIS is pleased to be working closely with Argent Energy. We see this success as a great example of how the innovation service can support Scottish companies within the Hydro Nation agenda”

Dr Leo Carswell, HNWIS

Outcomes

With the HNWIS support Argent Energy now has independent evidence to support the promotion of its new service area and bespoke market insight, including potential solutions to mobilisation barriers aiding their strategic planning.

Learn more: www.argentenergy.com