

DKK 17 million for biorefinery

Professor Birgitte Ahring, who for many years did research in biofuels at the Technical University of Denmark, but is now employed at the University of Aalborg, has been given DKK 17 million from the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation. The money is to be used for a biorefinery that is going to produce 2nd generation biofuel, feed, antibiotics as well as additives for feed and foodstuffs. The refinery is supposed to be located in Ballerup.

Apart from being the manager of Biogasol, Birgitte Ahring manages the establishment of the University of Aalborg's centre of bioenergy and bioproducts as well as Washington State University's centre of bioproducts and bioenergy. ■

Butanol is better than ethanol

Researchers at the Californian Joint BioEnergy Institute have produced a type of yeast that produces the 2nd generation biofuel butanol as part of its metabolism, writes the Danish engineering weekly Ingeniøren.

Butanol is a type of hydrocarbon that is even more suitable for cars than ethanol. It can be used in the existing infrastructure, and the cars will be able to run on up to 85 percent butanol, even without any changes to the car. In an article in the magazine Microbial Cell Factories, the researchers write that they have increased the yeast's ability to produce butanol tenfold, and that they expect to be able to increase the productivity even further. ■

New application round for the Danish National Advanced Technology Foundation

The 27th of January is the deadline for applications for aid for advanced technological projects and platforms.

The Danish National Advanced Technology Foundations invests in advanced technological projects and platforms where research institutions and companies work together. Since 2005, the foundation has invested DKK 807 million in 60 advanced technological projects and platforms, including projects within energy and environment.

An advanced technological project is outlined and aims determinedly at creating a specific result that increases the parties' possibility of improving their knowledge and market position. Advanced technology projects have a duration of 2-4 years and a total budget of DKK 5-30 million. The investment of the Danish National Advanced Technology Foundation is DKK 2.5-15 million.

An advanced technological platform is a cooperation between research institutions and companies and creates a radically new technology that clears the way for the participating parties to start up to several new commercial activities and has a duration of 3-5 years and a total budget of DKK 30-150 million. The investment of the Danish National Advanced Technology Foundation is DKK 15-75 million.

In 2009, the deadlines for sending in expressions of interest are the 27th of January and the 1st of September. Select applicants are then asked to send in applications before the 30th of March and the 28th of October respectively.

Further information about the Danish National Advance Technology Foundation is available at www.hoejteknologifonden.dk



New application round for EUDP

The deadline for EUDP is the 25th of February 2009. During the autumn of 2009, there will be another application round, but in the autumn round, you can only apply for a maximum of DKK 5 million in aid for each project.

EUDP's next application round will be carried out already at the beginning of 2009 with deadline on the 25th of February. The notice materials can be retrieved at www.ens.dk/eudp from the middle of January 2009.

It is possible to apply for aid for projects related to all types of energy technologies that meet the objective of the EUDP legislation.

During the fall of 2009, it will also be possible to send in applications for EUDP, but only for aid of no more than DKK 5 million per project. Therefore, application have to be sent in before the 25th of February for projects applying for aid of more than DKK 5 million, if the aid is needed in 2009.

The applications are to be made in English, if the aid applied for is above DKK 3 million.

The assessment of the project applications will entail significant focus on the commercial perspectives in the applications, including that there is a well-founded and clear business plan.

EUDP stands for Energiteknologisk Udviklings- og Demonstrations Program (Energy Technology Development and Demonstration Programme) - see www.ens.dk/eudp. EUDP has an independent board and secretariat in the Danish Energy Agency.

EUDP will invite all potential applications to an information meeting about the spring application round at the end of January 2009. Further information will be put on EUDP's website.

