

# POWER UPGRADE OF BIOGAS TO BIOMETHANOL OR BIOMETHANE

TOPSOE



Hydrogen & P2X 2022  
15-16 June 2022 Copenhagen, Denmark

**Joachim Harteg Jacobsen**  
15 June 2022



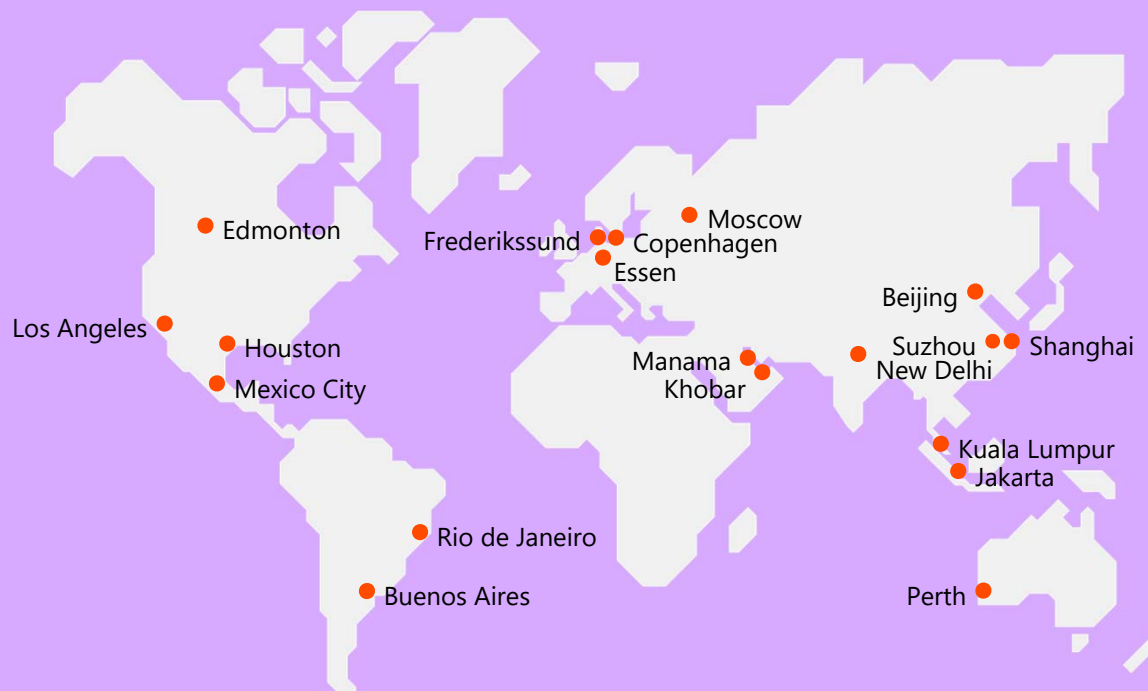
# TOPSOE AT A GLANCE

Topsoe is a leading developer and provider of solutions and technologies to produce fuels and chemicals essential to the energy transition. For more than 80 years, we have been perfecting chemistry to help industries produce more efficiently. Today, it is our ambition to lead the global transition of heavy industry and transport to a zero-carbon future.

## Technology leader in

**Hydrogen**  
**Ammonia**  
**Methanol**  
**Renewable diesel**

## Founded 1940



# 9%

Of revenue invested in R&D

# 6,225

In revenue (DKK million)

# 903

EBIT before special items (DKK million)

# 2,133

employees

# TOPSOE SOLUTIONS ACCELERATE THE ENERGY TRANSITION

## ENERGY SOURCES

Fuels and chemicals can be produced from various ways of both renewable and fossil feedstocks.



Renewable Electricity



Biomass, waste & carbon



Fossil energy

## SOLUTIONS

Topsoe helps customers on their decarbonization journey through advanced energy solutions, such as Power-to-X, renewable fuels and blue solutions for the chemicals.



Topsoe electrolysis solutions



Topsoe chemical solutions



Topsoe fuel solutions

## CHEMICALS AND FUELS

For our customers, the output is more efficient processes or renewable feedstocks, that significantly can lower the carbon footprint, and thereby supporting them in their energy transition.



Hydrogen



Ammonia



Methanol



SNG/RNG



Fuels

## UTILIZATION

The societal benefits of these end-products come, among other things, in the shape of a cleaner transportation sector and hard-to-abate sectors such as steel, cement, and mining, who can reduce their carbon footprint



Transportation

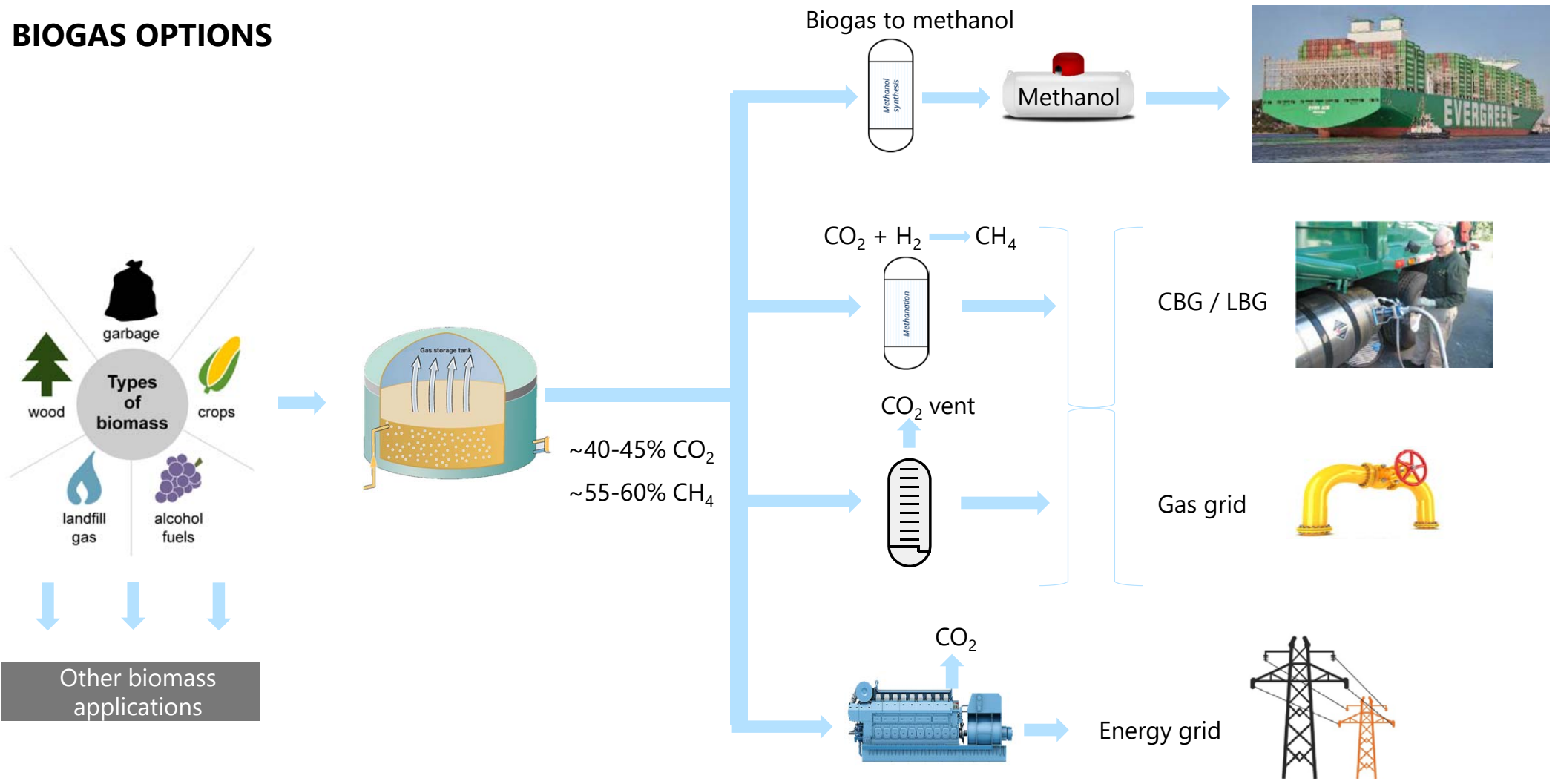


Chemical & fertilizers



Heavy industry

# BIOGAS OPTIONS



Other biomass applications

**STOICHIOMETRY**

**HOW MUCH HYDROGEN  
OR METHANE DO YOU  
NEED TO UPGRADE THE  
CO<sub>2</sub> ?**

**UPGRADING THE CO<sub>2</sub> TO  
METHANOL:**

**EACH CO<sub>2</sub> NEEDS 3 × (CH<sub>4</sub> OR H<sub>2</sub>)**

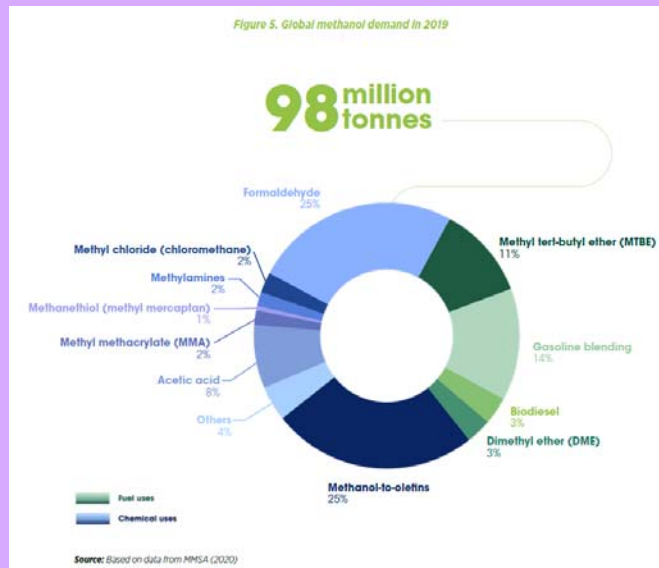
**METHANE:**

**EACH CO<sub>2</sub> NEEDS 4 × H<sub>2</sub>**

# METHANOL A BULK CHEMICAL AND FUEL

## Bulk chemical

- Current global market is ~100 million ton/yr and growing at ~3% / yr
- Prices of "grey" methanol varies with gas price in the range 300-800 USD / ton, currently in the high end.



## RENEWABLE METHANOL PRODUCTION FORECAST

IRENA is projecting that global methanol production would increase from 100 Mt currently to 500 Mt in 2050 (Saygin and Gielen, forthcoming) based on the Transforming Energy Scenario. This increase would also need to be accompanied by a shift to renewable methanol (Figure 47). In 2050, 250 Mt of e-methanol and 135 Mt of bio-methanol are estimated to be produced annually, this is an ambitious yet realistic transformation pathway built on renewable energy and steadily improving energy efficiency.

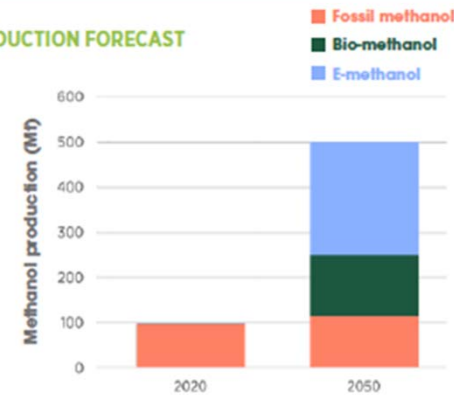


Figure 47. Current and future methanol production by source

IRENA AND METHANOL INSTITUTE (2021), *Innovation Outlook : Renewable Methanol*, International Renewable Energy Agency, Abu Dhabi.

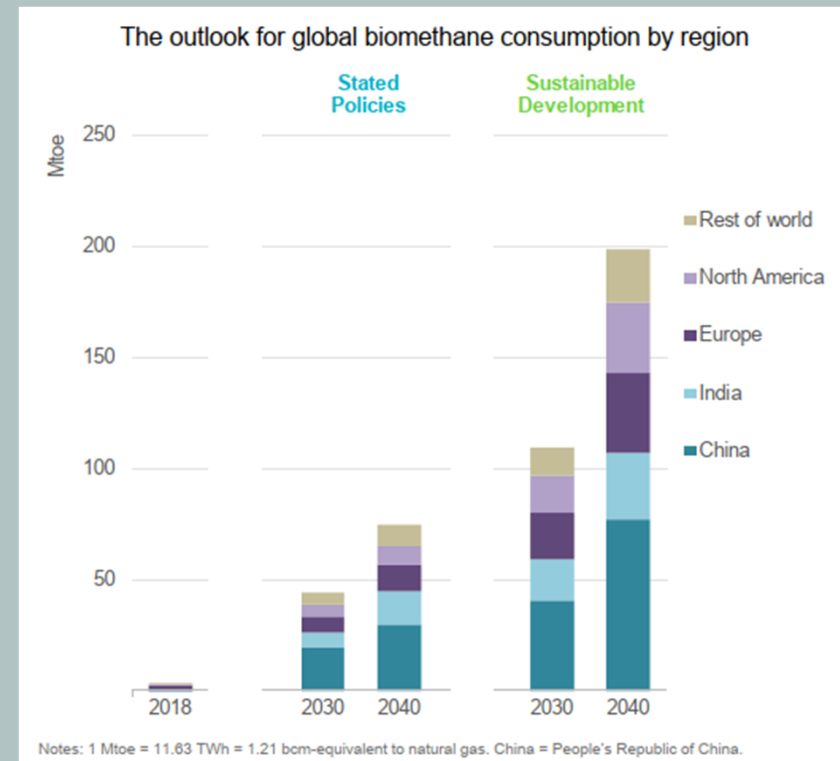
## BIOMETHANE: FUEL AND FEED FOR GREEN CHEMICALS

- **Current market and future and applications:**

- Around 90% of biomethane currently comes from biogas upgrading.
- Gas injection to remain predominant with possibilities for downstream refining into various chemicals

- **Zooming in:**

- Europe – REpowerEU aims at 30 billion m<sup>3</sup> biomethane by 2030.



IEA (2020) – Outlook for biogas and Biomethane: Prospects for organic growth. All rights reserved

## Topsoe technology leader in methanol production

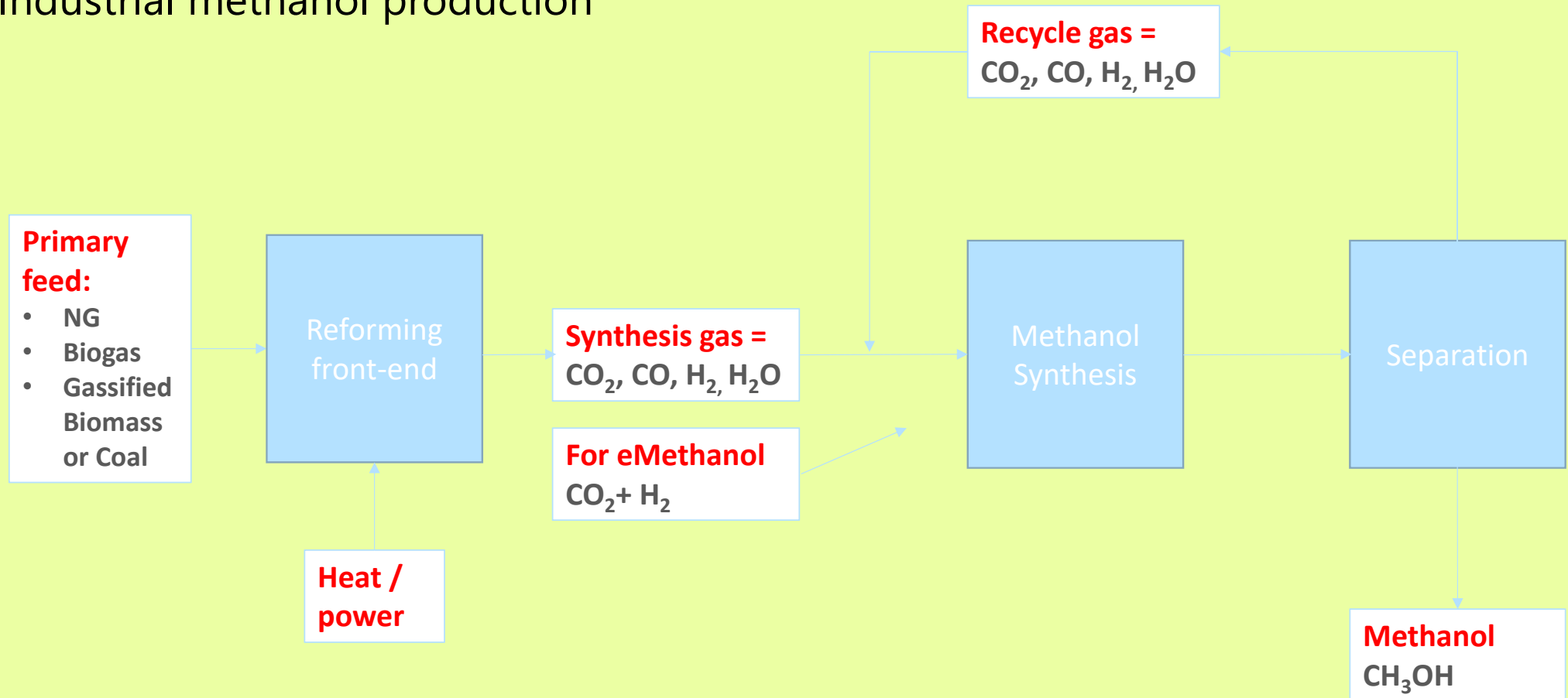


Location	Feedstock	Capacity	Start up
Turkmengas, Akhal Velayat, Turkmenistan	Natural gas	5200 MTPD	2019
Shchekino Azot, Shchekino, Tula, Russia	Natural gas	1350 MTPD	2018
Celanese Ltd., Texas, USA	Natural gas	3700 MTPD	2016
Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals, Ltd., Vadodara, India	Natural gas	525 MTPD	2013
Guizhou Tianfu Chemical Co. Ltd., Guizhou, P. R. China	Coal gasification	750 MTPD	2011
Fanavaran Petrochemical Company, Bandar Imam, Iran	Natural gas + CO <sub>2</sub>	3030 MTPD	2004
Sichuan Lutianhua Stock. Co., Ltd., Sichuan, P. R. China	Synthesis gas	136 MTPD	2003
Petronas Fertiliser (Kedah) Sdn Bhd, Kedah, Malaysia	Synthesis gas	200 MTPD	1998

*Selected reference plants by Topsoe design out of 50+ plants by 2021*

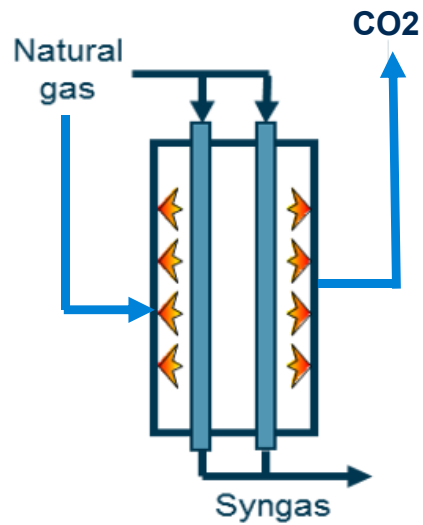


# Industrial methanol production



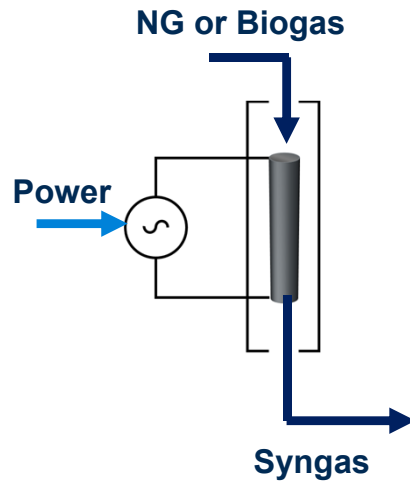
# ALTERNATIVES FOR METHANOL SYNTHESIS FRONT-END

## Conventional SMR



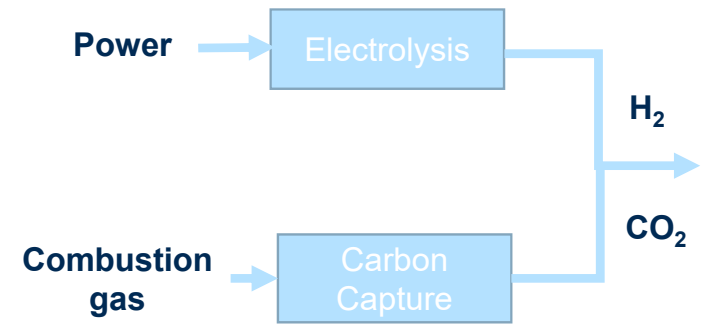
Energy efficiency  $\approx$  60%  
Gas used as source of heat

## Topsoe eREACT™



Energy efficiency  $\approx$  65%  
Power used as source of heat

## Electrolysis / eMethanol

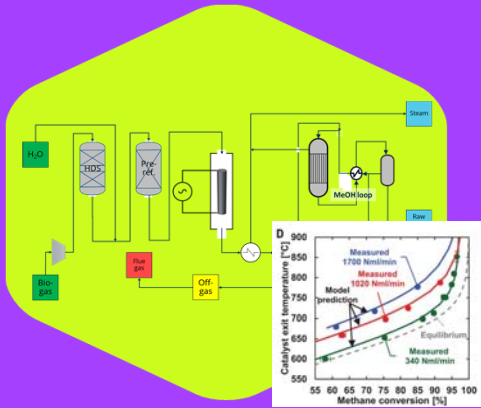


LT electrolysis:  
Energy efficiency  $\approx$  44%

SOEC  
Energy efficiency  $\approx$  51%

All energy input as power

# ERECT™ METHANOL ROADMAP FOR DEMONSTRATION AND TOWARDS COMMERCIALIZATION



120  
Nm<sup>3</sup>/h  
syngas

2022:

FID ready for  
commercial Biogas to  
methanol plant

2024:

Start of operation

**Proof of concept**

**Demonstration project  
(Biogas ⇌ MeOH)**

**Commercialization  
Biogas → MeOH**

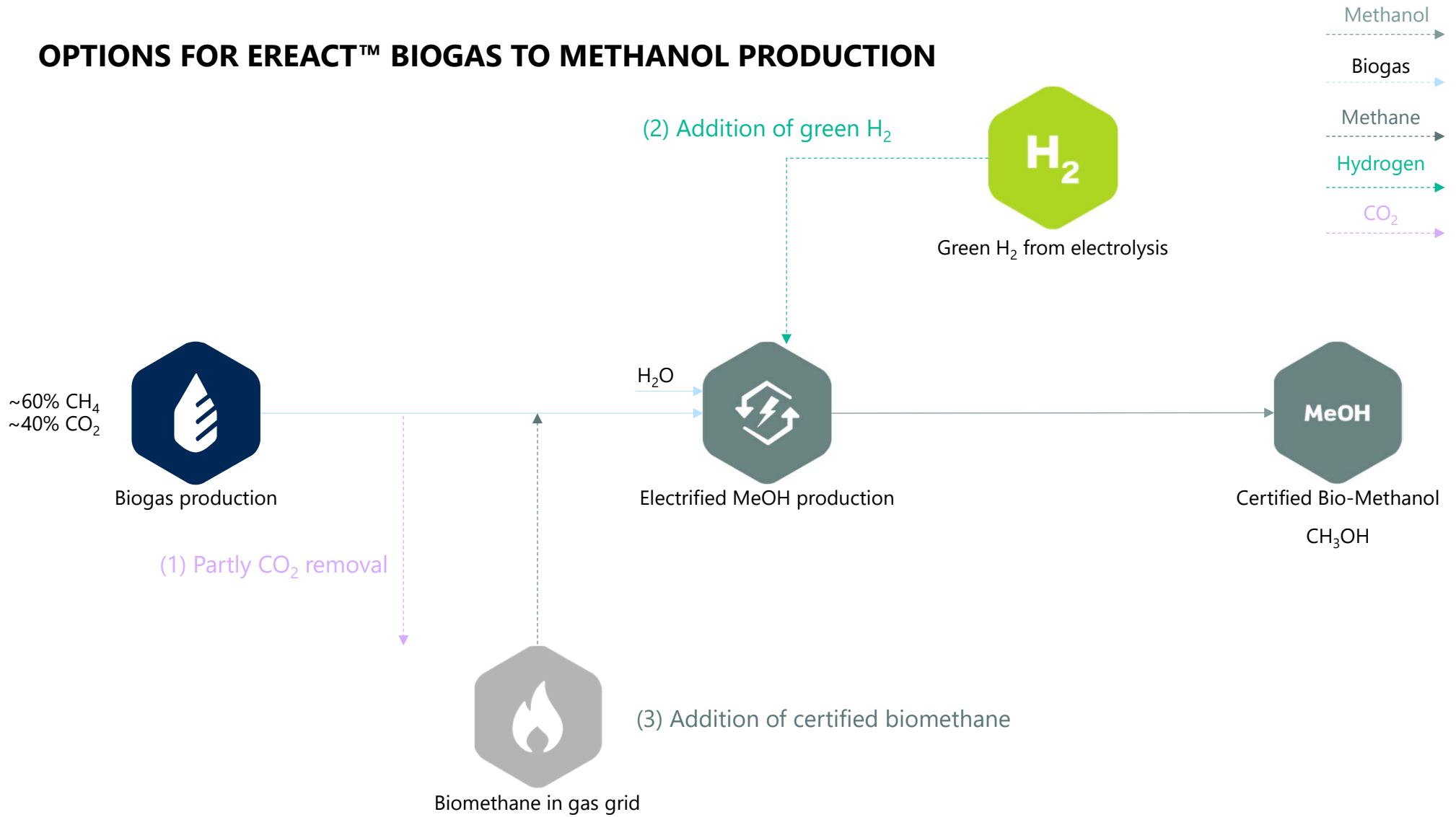
2013 - 2018

2019-2021

2022→

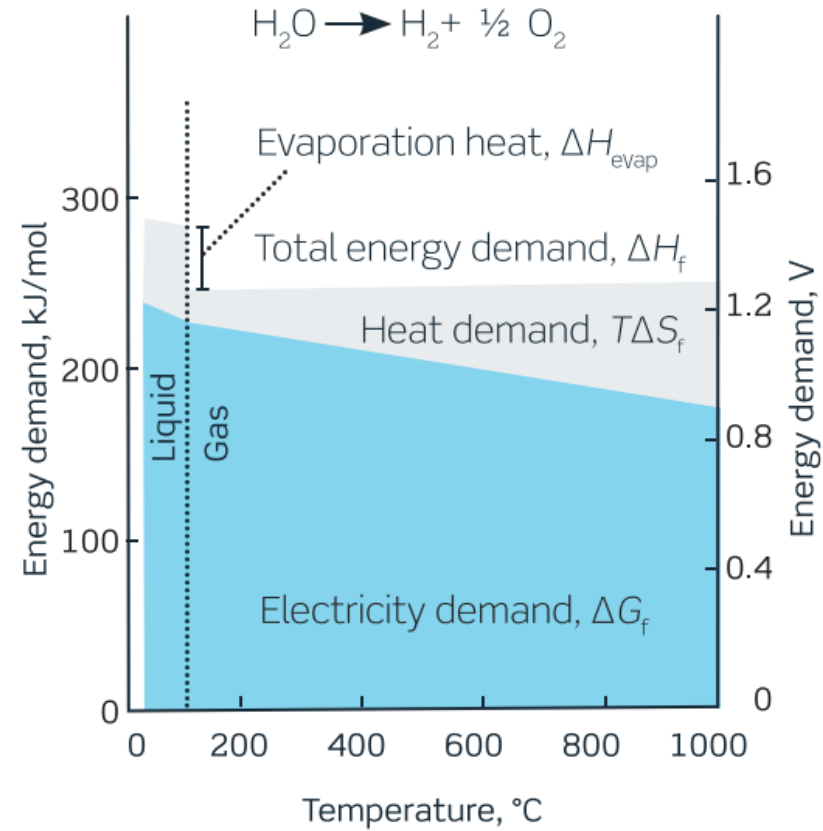
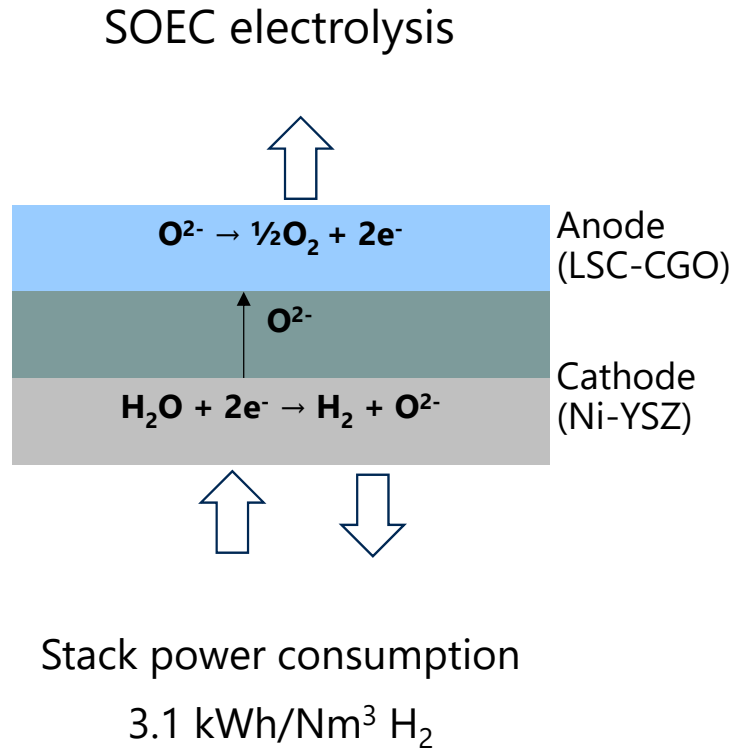


# OPTIONS FOR EREACT™ BIOGAS TO METHANOL PRODUCTION



# HIGH T SOEC MOST ENERGY EFFICIENT ELECTROLYZER

SPECIALLY WELL SUITED FOR INTEGRATION WITH HEAT GENERATING PROCESSES



## ENERGY CONSUMPTIONS AND EFFICIENCIES – INDICATIVE NUMBERS

### POWER UPGRADE OF A BIOGAS OF 60% CH<sub>4</sub> / 40% CO<sub>2</sub> TO CHEMICAL GRADE METHANOL

		Energy input per LHV output		Energy efficiencies	
		BG Gas LHV input	Total Power input	Energy Efficiency to product	District heat output (+/- 50%)
		MW / MW	MW / MW	%	%
Methanol via eREACT™	Partial CO <sub>2</sub> vent	0,97	0,52	67%	~10 %
	+ SOEC H <sub>2</sub>	0,78	0,76	65%	~10 %
	+ LT* H <sub>2</sub>	0,78	0,83	62%	~10 %
	+ CH <sub>4</sub>	0,97	0,52	67%	~10 %
eMethanol via BG separation	+ SOEC H <sub>2</sub>	-	1,97	51% **	~10%
	+ LT* H <sub>2</sub>	-	2,28	44% **	~10%

\* Low temperature electrolysis

\*\* Not including unreacted CH<sub>4</sub>

## Topsoe's position in methanation



*Gobigas, Goteborg Energi*

Location	Feedstock	Capacity	Start up
CPI, Xingang, China	Coal gasification	2 x 131,800 Nm <sup>3</sup> /h	2024
Huieng, Inner Mongolia, China	Coal gasification	115,600 Nm <sup>3</sup> /h	2021
Wulan, Inner Mongolia, China	Coal gasification	78,700 Nm <sup>3</sup> /h	2020
Shandong Iron and Steel group Co., Ltd., Rizhao, China	Coke-oven-gas	2 x 55,000 Nm <sup>3</sup> /h	2018
<b>Aarhus University/EUDP, Foulum, Denmark</b>	<b>Biogas + power (SOEC)</b>	<b>10 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h</b>	<b>2016</b>
Daosheng, Shanxi, China	Coke-oven-gas	27,500 Nm <sup>3</sup> /h	2015
<b>Göteborg Energi (GoBiGas), Göteborg, Sweden</b>	<b>Biomass gasification</b>	<b>2,200 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h</b>	<b>2014</b>
Petrochina, Inner Mongolia (Wuhai), China	Coke-oven-gas	2 x 56,300 Nm <sup>3</sup> /h	2013

*Selected reference plants by Topsoe design*

## BIOGAS UPGRADE II

### A FULL VALUECHAIN FROM BIOGAS TO GAS GRID

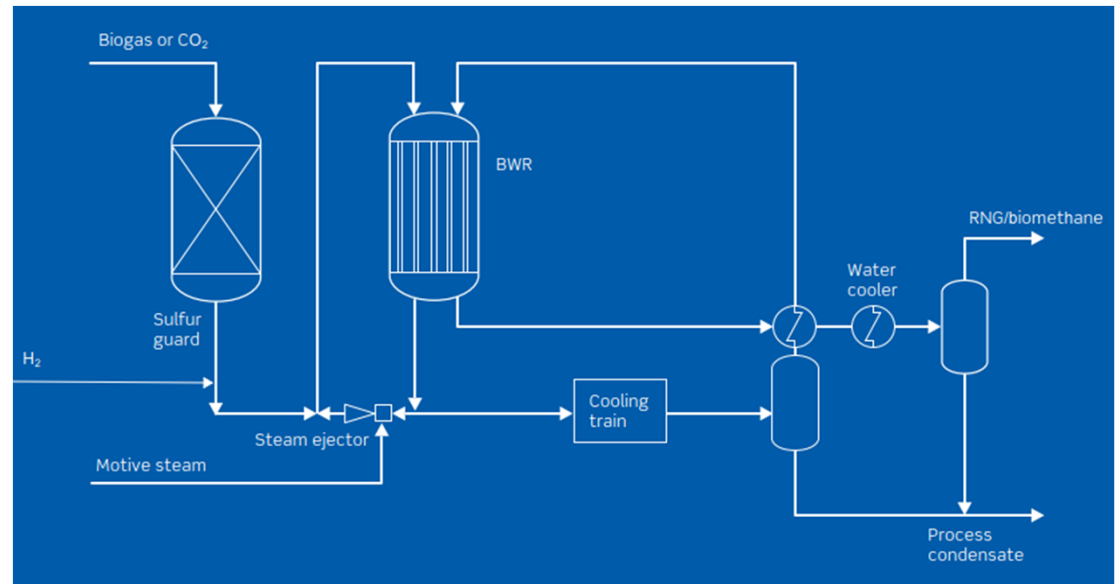
- Biogas to SNG (Substitute Natural Gas) via SOEC (Solid Oxide Electrolysis Cell) and methanation of the CO<sub>2</sub> in the biogas
- SOEC is taken to TRL 8
- Methanation taken to TRL8
- Economic analysis has shown that upgrading can compete with traditional upgrade by CO<sub>2</sub> removal
- Carbon utilization is better and CO<sub>2</sub> emission avoided





## BIOGAS OR BIOCO<sub>2</sub> METHANATION HYDROGEN SUPPLEMENT FROM ELECTROLYSIS

- Carbon source: Biogas mixture or pure CO<sub>2</sub>
- Hydrogen addition to achieve: H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> = 4
- Isothermal reactor by TREMP™ design
- Integrate with SOEC to achieve an unmatched system efficiency.



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## OUTLOOK AND SUMMARY

- **BIOGENIC CO<sub>2</sub> WILL BE A VALUABLE RESOURCE FOR OUR GREEN ENERGY TRANSITION SERVING THE HARD-TO-ABATE SECTORS**
- **UPGRADING BIOGAS BY RENEWABLE POWER TO METHANE OR METHANOL ARE VIABLE ROUTES**
- **TOPSOE HAS ENERGY EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGIES AVAILABLE FOR BOTH ROUTES**
- **THE NOVEL EREACT™ TECHNOLOGY ENABLES FULL BIOGAS CONVERSION TO METHANOL WITH HIGH ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND NO PROCESS CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSION**
- **SOEC TECHNOLOGY ENABLES FULL BIOGAS CONVERSION TO METHANE WITH HIGH ENERGY EFFICIENCY BY USING THE HEAT OF METHANATION FOR HYDROGEN PRODUCTION**

# QUESTIONS ?

April 28, 2022

**TOPSOE**

Confidential

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