



# Press release

# OrangeGas gives the green light to 100 percent Bio-CNG from VERBIO and puts more environmentally friendly PS on the road

- Germany-wide: 44 OrangeGas filling stations with 100 percent Bio-CNG from VERBIO
- verbiogas is now available at 126 CNG filling stations in Germany
- Competent partnership for transport companies

**Hanover/Leipzig, April 10, 2019 –** With immediate effect OrangeGas, a Netherlands filling station operator offering Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), will be distributing 100 percent Bio-CNG from VERBIO from its filling stations in Germany. Bio-CNG (also known as biomethane) is produced by VERBIO using only waste products from domestic agriculture and straw. The VERBIO technology was developed internally by VERBIO, and to date its use on this scale is unique. In Germany it is currently available at a total of 853 CNG filling stations. With the OrangeGas cooperation <u>VERBIO</u> now supplies 126 of these filling stations.

## Long-term partnership for more "positive energy" in the fuel tank

<u>OrangeGas</u> operates more than 80 CNG filling stations in its domestic market in the Netherlands, and entered the German market in 2017. OrangeGas currently owns 44 CNG filling stations in Germany. "In the Netherlands we offer 100 percent 'Groengas' at all of our filling stations as part of our strategy. This was also our objective in Germany from the beginning. With VERBIO we are pleased that we have found a long-term and innovative partner for Bio-CNG from 100 percent waste materials and straw," explained Wijtze Bakker, Director of OrangeGas Germany GmbH. The signs are pointing towards growth: OrangeGas is determined to expand its infrastructure in Germany and to triple the number of its filling stations to 150 CNG filling stations by 2022. Plenty of potential for <u>#StrohlmTank</u> from VERBIO.

"A partner such as OrangeGas is a real blessing in these times when the hysterical attitude of German politics is creating uncertainty for operators of CNG filling stations, energy providers and municipalities. On entering the German market, this company from the Netherlands has rescued numerous CNG filling stations from closure, modernised the technology they use and ensured that they are once again reliable and profitable operations. That someone is investing in this area is an important signal for the expansion of CNG mobility," said Claus Sauter, Chairman of the Management Board of VERBIO AG. "It is purely coincidence that our company's colours match so well, but what connects us is the conviction that with biomethane we offer and promote the cleanest, most efficient and most economic fuel for the future for both passenger and heavy goods vehicles," added Mr Sauter.

## Freight transport in particular benefits from a well-developed CNG filling station network

Biomethane as a fuel is now attracting particular attention in the freight transport sector. From the beginning of 2019 legal rules provide for state support schemes and exemption from road tolls for CNG heavy goods vehicles. The threat of diesel vehicles being banned and the possibility of almost CO<sub>2</sub> neutral freight transport makes CNG attractive for freight transport companies. "The electric car will find its applications, but for certain sectors, such as long-distance freight transport, the combustion engine remains the only sensible and affordable solution," Claus Sauter emphasised.

"VERBIO and OrangeGas also offer reliable partnerships with freight transport companies and logistics providers. Together, we offer individual solutions for CNG filling stations and Bio-CNG supply concepts, either along regular transport routes or at a company's premises," explained Heinz-Peter Küppers, a VERBIO trade expert for biomethane.





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## Partnership established in the CNG-Club network

VERBIO and OrangeGas are partners and supporters of the <u>CNG-Club e.V.</u>, which is a non-profit association engaging itself for all matters concerned with CNG mobility. "We need active partners in the marketplace to make sure that CNG also finally takes off in Germany. Not just discussions, considerations, waiting, complaining, hoping or resigning. Just get on with it! The partnership between OrangeGas and VERBIO brings together two very engaged actors who are prepared to give it some gas," said a very pleased Birgit Maria Wöber, treasurer of the CNG-Club e.V. in conclusion.

#### Further information: <u>www.verbio.de | www.verbiogas.de | www.strohklug.de</u> <u>www.orangegas.com</u> www.cng-club.de

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#### Information about VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG (VERBIO)

VERBIO AG is one of the leading independent bioenergy companies, and is also the only large-scale producer of biodiesel, bioethanol and biomethane in Europe. The Company's annual production capacity amounts to approximately 470,000 tonnes of biodiesel, 260,000 tonnes of bioethanol and 600 gigawatt hours of biomethane. The Company produces its highly efficient fuels using internally developed, energy efficient production processes and innovative technologies. VERBIO's biofuels achieve CO<sub>2</sub> reductions of up to 90 percent compared to petrol or disel. VERBIO delivers its products directly to European oil companies, oil trading companies, independent filling stations, freight forwarders, municipal utilities and vehicle fleets. In addition, VERBIO produces high-quality pharmaceutical glycerine and phytosterols for the pharmaceutical, cosmetic and foodstuff industries as well as fodder and fertiliser for the agricultural industry. Within the Group, VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG acts as a management holding company. The operative business is conducted by the subsidiaries VERBIO Diesel Bitterfeld GmbH, VERBIO Diesel Schwedt GmbH, VERBIO Ethanol Schwedt GmbH & Co. KG, VERBIO Ethanol Zörbig GmbH & Co. KG, VERBIO Pinnow GmbH, VERBIO Agrar GmbH, VERBIO Logistik GmbH and VERBIO Polska Sp. z o.o. The VERBIO share (ISIN DE000A0JL9W6/WKN A0JL9W) has been listed in the prime standard segment of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange since October 2006.

#### Information about OrangeGas

OrangeGas Germany GmbH is a subsidiary of OrangeGas B.V., which was founded in 2008 in the Netherlands. Since its formation the Company has concentrated on alternative fuels. The Company currently operates 80 CNG filling stations in the Netherlands, making it the market leader. In 2008 Marcel Borger and Pelle Schlichting, brothers-in-law, cut the Gordian knot at a family event. They resolved to make a significant contribution to environmentally friendly mobility in the Netherlands by constructing filling stations that use only alternative fuels. Initially, the focus was solely on Groengas (Bio-CNG). Groengas is cheap, has a wide range of applications, and is currently the cleanest fuel. The first filling station was opened in Steenwijk in June 2009. OrangeGas quickly established itself as the fastest growing market-player in the market for environmentally friendly mobility, with a new filling station on average every month. OrangeGas is the only company in the Netherlands supplying 100 percent Groengas. By the end of 2015 OrangeGas was operating 65 Groengas filling stations making it the market leader in the Netherlands. However, the ambitions of OrangeGas go further, and the future belongs to sustainable mobility. There is an increasing range of cars that are powered using alternative fuels, and environmentally driving is getting cheaper. OrangeGas is now opening filling stations that offer various biofuels: Groengas, electric fast chargers using green electricity, CO<sub>2</sub> for environmentally friendly cooling, and in future also hydrogen and Bio-LNG (liquid biomethane). OrangeGas has also been represented in Germany since 2017 and continues its growth there with the recent acquisition of 44 CNG filling stations.

#### Information about the CNG-Club e.V.

The CNG-Club e.V. is actively engaged in the promotion of sustainable, cheap and environmentally friendly mobility using Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) – a fuel made from natural gas, biomethane and synthetic methane that protects the environment. The non-profit association operates as an information platform, network and national association. It represents the interests of consumers in politics, with the automobile manufacturers, the gas industry and with operators of CNG filling stations.