

## Press release

### Guest appearance for Claus Sauter in podcast with Herbert Diess, CEO of Volkswagen AG

**Leipzig, May 11, 2021** – In the most recent video podcast in the widely-circulated “DIESS TALKS” (in German: “DIESS SPRICHT”) series, Herbert Diess, the CEO of Volkswagen AG met with Claus Sauter, CEO of VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG in VERBIO AG’s biorefinery in Pinnow, Brandenburg.

In the one-to-one meeting with Herbert Diess, Claus Sauter provides an insight into VERBIO’s worldwide unique technology for manufacturing biofertiliser and biomethane from straw. He shows Volkswagen’s chief executive how VERBIO manufactures the BioCNG that is used to fuel the CNG heavy goods vehicles made by Volkswagen’s Scania brand. During the visit, Diess and Sauter discussed the potential that biomethane from straw offers for heavy goods vehicle transport.

“The complete electrification of our heavy goods vehicle fleet will take some time. Until the products and the necessary infrastructure are available, biofuels can help to reduce the emissions in commercial transport. I was excited to talk to Claus Sauter, one of Europe’s great visionaries in the area of climate-friendly technologies,” said Herbert Diess, summarising his VERBIO visit.<sup>1</sup>

By using biomethane made from straw, CNG trucks reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 90 percent, which means that they are close to climate-neutral. “In Germany there is enough surplus straw from agriculture to fuel up to two thirds of heavy goods vehicles on an almost CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral basis using VERBIO technology. We are currently in the process of converting our own fleet, which consists of almost 100 trucks, to be wholly powered using this fuel,” explained Sauter. This inspired Herbert Diess, and he took a seat in a Scania truck at VERBIO’s production site. “VW’s subsidiary Traton has announced that every second Scania will be powered by electricity by 2030. I am convinced that by then every first Scania will be powered by BioCNG or BioLNG, and that diesel will be irrelevant. It was an interesting exchange, and I express my heartfelt thanks to Herbert Diess for this meeting,” concluded Claus Sauter.

The “DIESS SPRICHT” format is distributed using Volkswagens’ widely accessed media channels such as YouTube, LinkedIn and Twitter, and each episode reaches several thousand viewers. In every episode, Herbert Diess meets with internal and external guests to discuss new technologies and future trends.

The new episode of “DIESS TALKS” with Claus Sauter is available at the following link:

[https://www.linkedin.com/posts/herbertdiess\\_the-250k-trucks-our-brands-man-truck-bus-activity-6797483705859350528-BCCI](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/herbertdiess_the-250k-trucks-our-brands-man-truck-bus-activity-6797483705859350528-BCCI)

<sup>1</sup> Source: LinkedIn

---

#### VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG

Ulrike Kurze  
Marketing/PR  
Ritterstraße 23 (Oelßner’s Hof), 04109 Leipzig  
Tel.: +49 176 13085404  
Fax: +49 341 308530-999  
E-Mail: [ulrike.kurze@verbio.de](mailto:ulrike.kurze@verbio.de)

Constanze Reinsberg  
WeichertMehner GmbH & Co. KG  
An der Dreikönigskirche 5, 01097 Dresden  
Tel.: +49 351 50140-205  
Fax: +49 351 50140-209  
E-Mail: [verbio@weichertmehner.com](mailto:verbio@weichertmehner.com)

## Press release

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

VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG is one of the leading independent bioenergy manufacturers, and is also the only large-scale producer of biodiesel, bioethanol and biomethane in Europe. The Group has approximately 800 employees at its locations in Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Brandenburg as well as at its foreign subsidiaries in India, the USA, Canada, Poland and Hungary. VERBIO concentrates on the use of internally developed innovative technologies and efficient energy-saving production processes. VERBIO's biofuels achieve CO<sub>2</sub> savings of up to 90 percent compared to petrol or diesel. The Group's annual production capacity amounts to approximately 660,000 tonnes of biodiesel, 260,000 tonnes of bioethanol and 900 gigawatt hours of biomethane. In addition, VERBIO manufactures biofertiliser and animal feed for agricultural use as well as high-value raw materials for the pharmaceutical, cosmetic and foodstuff industries. With its innovative processes and highly efficient production plants, VERBIO is a technology leader in the biofuels market. The VERBIO share (ISIN DE000A0JL9W6/WKN A0JL9W) has been listed in the prime standard segment of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange since October 2006.

[www.verbio.de](http://www.verbio.de) | [www.verbiosept.de](http://www.verbiosept.de) | [www.verbioogas.de](http://www.verbioogas.de) | [www.strohklug.de](http://www.strohklug.de)

Facebook & Instagram: @verbioag | LinkedIn & Twitter: @claussauter

---

### VERBIO Vereinigte BioEnergie AG

Ulrike Kurze  
Marketing/PR  
Ritterstraße 23 (Oelßner's Hof), 04109 Leipzig  
Tel.: +49 176 13085404  
Fax: +49 341 308530-999  
E-Mail: [ulrike.kurze@verbio.de](mailto:ulrike.kurze@verbio.de)

Constanze Reinsberg  
WeichertMehner GmbH & Co. KG  
An der Dreikönigskirche 5, 01097 Dresden  
Tel.: +49 351 50140-205  
Fax: +49 351 50140-209  
E-Mail: [verbio@weichertmehner.com](mailto:verbio@weichertmehner.com)