

Corteva and BP launch biofuel feedstock joint venture Atlas

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Atlas aims to produce one million metric tonnes of feedstock per year by the mid-2030s, which could produce over 800 thousand tonnes of biofuel. Initial supply is scheduled to begin in 2027 for use in co-processing at refineries as well as at dedicated biofuels plants.

Leading industry estimates have global demand for SAF growing to as much as 10 million tonnes by 2030 -- from about 1 million tonnes in 2024, while global demand for RD could rise to as much as 35 million tonnes by 2030 from approximately 17 million tonnes in 2024. Atlas is designed to provide a reliable, scalable supply of feedstock to help meet this expected demand.

The feedstock Atlas uses will be harvested from crops that are grown on existing cropland, between main food cropping seasons. Such intermediate crops can help improve soil health while providing farmers with a new revenue stream. As they use existing cropland during times when it has previously been unproductive like a fallow or cover period, they also do not lead to additional demand for land.

Judd O'Connor, executive vice president of Corteva's seed business unit added: "By helping found Atlas, Corteva continues to deliver on two critical parts of our mission: to help fuel the world and to support farmers. Agriculture is part of the solution, and we are excited to see Atlas come to life."

Philipp Schoelzel, senior vice president, biofuels growth, bp added: "This capital light joint venture creates optionality in our biofuels value chain, strengthening our position and helping deliver attractive returns. We're excited to collaborate with Corteva to deliver what our customers want."

Ignacio Conti, Global Business Development Director at Corteva will be the new Atlas Chief Executive Officer and Gaurav Sonar, vice president, Novel Feedstocks at bp will become its Chair of the Board of Directors.

"As the aviation industry looks for reliable, sustainable and cost-competitive sources of SAF, it is clear farmers have a critical role to play," said Atlas CEO, Ignacio Conti. "Atlas brings together global leaders in agriculture innovation and energy production to harness this demand by leveraging technological expertise and trusted relationships with farmers around the world to help scale production and boost supply while offering farmers new revenue streams."