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Summit Agricultural Group announces World's largest Ethanol-to-Jet fuel facility

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Summit Agricultural Group announces the creation of Summit Next Gen, a sustainable aviation fuel production platform that will revolutionise the global aviation industry by providing a scalable supply of low-carbon jet fuel. Summit Next Gen will utilise Honeywell's Ethanol to JetÂ processing technology to convert ethanol into sustainable aviation fuel (SAF). Through the project, Summit Next Gen creates an additional market for low-carbon ethanol producers and advances the sustainability goals of the difficult-to-decarbonise aviation industry.

The global aviation industry demands over 100 billion gallons of jet fuel annually and is expected to double in the next 20 years with increasing passenger demand. Governments, companies, and consumers are demanding low-carbon alternatives to traditional jet fuel; however, the current production of SAF remains challenged by the undersupply of feedstocks consisting of vegetable oils, animal fats and waste oils. The ETJ pathway provides a scalable and cost-competitive solution now to solve this problem, and this is largely attributable to advancements undertaken by ethanol producers who have continued to reduce their carbon footprints through the adoption of new technologies such as carbon capture and storage (CCS) and investments to boost efficiency.

Growing low-carbon markets, recent state-level programs, and incentives created under the Inflation Reduction Act that are broadly supported by the biofuels, energy, and aviation industries catalyzed the creation of Summit Next Gen to meet the growing demand for SAF. Sustainable aviation fuel is nearly identical to petroleum-based jet fuel sources and is currently approved at blend rates up to 50 per cent by ASTM International providing a drop in fuel solution.Â

"The creation of Summit Next Gen and our partnership with a technology leader like Honeywell UOP sets a new standard for the agriculture, ethanol, and aviation industries," saidÂ Bruce Rastetter, CEO of Summit Agricultural Group. "The agriculture

and ethanol industries have a long history of continuous improvement producing more with less, and this has enabled forward-thinking ethanol producers to be favourably positioned for the present challenge of helping aviation reduce its carbon footprint."

Summit Next Gen will be located in the U.S. Gulf Coast region, providing access to significant logistics and utility infrastructure. The company is advancing engineering and design and has selected Burns & McDonnell in collaboration with Honeywell for the development of the transformational project.