

NSF Capitol Hill Luncheon

Green Gasoline: A Renewable Petroleum Alternative From Plants

Two paragraph summary

Recent breakthroughs are raising the profile of “green” gasoline—and related diesel and jet fuels—because they are nearly identical to petroleum-derived counterparts and fit existing infrastructure, yet are derived from renewable, non-food sources.

On Sept. 24th, four leading experts from academia and industry will highlight how far researchers have come, and how far they still need to go, to bring plant-derived gasoline to market.

Event specifics

The National Science Foundation, in collaboration with Senator John Kerry and the Senate Commerce Committee, invite you to attend the luncheon on **Wed., Sept. 24, 2008, at 12:30 in Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building**. Lunch will be provided by our co-sponsors, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, and the IEEE-USA. The U.S. National Arboretum will be providing cuttings of feedstock plants such as switchgrass and poplar from its Power Plants: Farming Energy garden exhibit for numerous plant displays, which will also become part of NSF’s presence at the U.S. Botanic Garden’s Family Day on Sat., Sept. 27th.

Speakers

John Regalbuto, chemical engineering professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago and the Catalysis and Biocatalysis Program Director at the National Science Foundation

Clint Chapple, expert on plant biochemistry from Purdue Univ. in West Lafayette, Ind., and a pioneer in developing new plants that are easily converted into biofuels

George Huber, chemical engineer from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst who has developed one of the most efficient methods for turning wood chips—or any other plant waste, such as corn husks or even waste paper—into critical gasoline components

Randy Cortright of Virent Energy Systems, helped invent a process to turn sugar into gasoline and recently announced a partnership with one of the world’s largest oil companies to bring Virent’s processes to market in the next few years