

July 2026

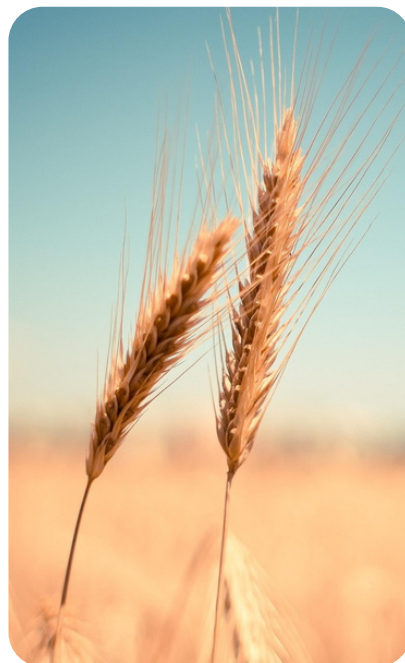
Biofuels

Each month we review the latest news and select key announcements and commentary from across the biofuels sector.



**Announcements
& Commentary**

**Research &
Development**



Providing clients with a strategic view of feedstock, technology, policy and marketing opportunity across the bioeconomy.

FOREWORD



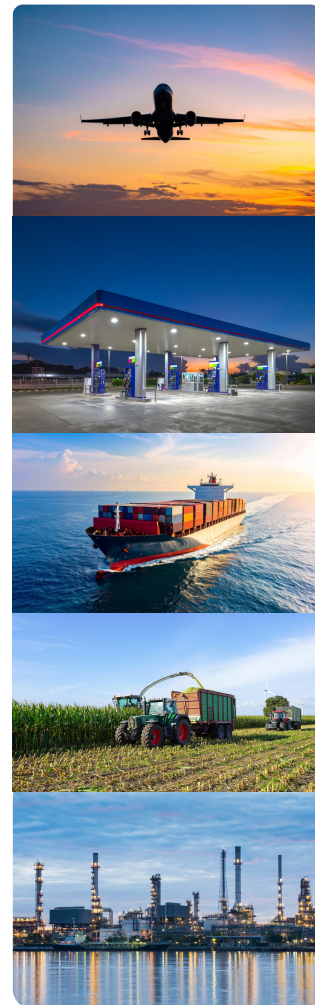
Despite disappointment from postponement of the IMO's Net-zero framework and fuel supply challenges arising from conflict around the Strait of Hormuz, there are still many positive developments coming out of the Marine biofuels sector.

Repsol and Maersk have completed their first bioethanol bunkering operation at the Port of Barcelona. The operation supplied 2,800 tons of bioethanol to the Antonia Maersk, under fully commercial conditions. The fuel was delivered by Repsol's new battery-operated bunker vessel, further reducing fuelling emissions. Maersk currently operates 23 dual-fuel container vessels, primarily designed to operate with methanol, however they continue to explore the opportunity to diversify their fuelling mix, using ethanol directly or as a blend alongside methanol.

In Brazil, CMA has taken delivery of their first tri-fuel certified containership with the ship successfully supplied with bioethanol at the Port of Santos. The bioethanol was supplied by Copersucar derived from sugarcane primarily grown on degraded pastureland. The RenovaBio program which operates in Brazil and regulates supply of biofuels ensures strict sustainability requirements and deforestation protections are met. As South America's largest port, handling substantial volumes of global trade, Santos has positioned itself as a key low-carbon marine fuels hub.

Shanghai Municipal government has unveiled their plans to build an international shipping hub with methanol as a core focus. Investments in developing green fuel supply chains and bunkering facilities are hoped to reinforce China's role in the growing sustainable marine fuels industry and attract international shipping operators to Shanghai.

The adoption of a versatile mix of sustainable marine fuels is primarily being driven by a desire to improve the environmental impact of global shipping, however, other significant benefits, including improving domestic fuel security, are increasingly being valued in this new era of uncertainty.



LEXICON

We have had a great response to the launch of our bioeconomy lexicon – we're delighted to see that it is a useful resource for so many.

Our lexicon was developed to help address the challenge of inconsistent or unclear terminology – it includes over 200 widely used terms, clearly defining each of them and providing advice regarding their use.

Please do take a look on our website – we welcome new suggestions or comments so please drop us a line at enquiries@alderbioinsights.co.uk

Bioethanol

USDA: Corn use for fuel ethanol production expands to 472 million bushels in May

The full report can be found here:

[Click for more information.](#)

Biodiesel

Pertamina launches nationwide B50 biodiesel distribution across Indonesia

PT Pertamina Patra Niaga continues to boost production of Biosolar 50 (B50), a new, more environmentally friendly diesel fuel. This product is an innovation that combines 50% palm oil (Fatty Acid Methyl Ester/FAME) and 50% diesel. The national implementation of B50 was officially launched by President Prabowo Subianto on July 9, 2026.

Following the launch, Pertamina Patra Niaga recently recorded two first liftings/shipments of B50 by the Pertamina Patra Niaga refinery. The first lifting was carried out from the Kasim Refinery on July 18, 2026, followed by the Plaju Refinery on July 22, 2026. Pertamina Patra Niaga's VP of Corporate Communication, Kitty Andhora, said that this first lifting is a concrete manifestation of the company's commitment to supporting President Prabowo Subianto's Asta Cita program to achieve energy self-sufficiency in Indonesia.

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Biorefinery

Saipem awarded new contracts in Ivory Coast and Italy by Eni worth approximately 800 million euro



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Saipem has been awarded two new contracts, one offshore in Ivory Coast and one onshore in Italy, for a total value of approximately 800 million euro. The first contract, awarded by Eni Côte d'Ivoire and its partners, refers to the Baleine Phase 3 project, the third development phase of the Baleine oil and gas field, located offshore Ivory Coast at water depths up to 1,300 meters.

Saipem's scope of work includes the engineering, fabrication, transportation and installation of approximately 50 km of rigid pipelines and associated subsea structures. The activities also include the transportation and installation of flexible risers, flexible jumpers, subsea production systems and a 3-km-long flexible gas export flowline, as well as 22 km of subsea umbilical.

The project is expected to last approximately three years and will involve the deployment of the construction vessels FDS and Shen Da.

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Policy

Growing American Energy: LPO investments in renewable biofuels and chemicals help harvest the nation's resources for a clean economy.

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Loan Programs Office (LPO) is supporting U.S. manufacturing and deployment of renewable fuels and chemicals to facilitate the transition to a clean energy economy. LPO can finance renewable fuels and chemicals projects spanning the value chain to decarbonize essential resources for the modern economy.

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UK Export Finance backs sustainable fuel to drive growth and cut emissions

UK Export Finance (UKEF) has announced a series of measures at the Farnborough International Airshow this week to drive growth and decarbonisation across the aerospace sector.

In a major step, UKEF will broaden its eligibility criteria so that it can consider a wider range of financing options for UK-based sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) projects, opening the door to greater investment in the sector.

The export credit agency also signed agreements with international aerospace leader Turkish Aerospace and British air taxi pioneer Vertical Aerospace to help UK innovation reach global markets.

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EU Parliament biofuels blunder could expose EU to billions a year in sanctions



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MEPs have voted to reject an EU regulation that would have seen soy biofuels no longer count as a renewable fuel by 2030.

Soybean cultivation is one of the world's leading causes of deforestation and land clearance, says T&E.

The decision to reverse the regulation could now see the EU liable for retaliation penalties from Indonesia and Malaysia for failing to meet a legal obligation to update its laws regarding deforestation-risk biofuels, according to a letter sent to MEPs from Energy Commissioner Dan Jorgensen.

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Research & Development

Could spent coffee grounds power your car?



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A new study has transformed spent coffee grounds into raw material to produce biofuel that could power cars and heavy transport.

Global coffee bean production stands at about 10 million tonnes per year, of which only a small percentage is actually consumed in brewed coffee. Spent coffee grounds often end up in landfill, but one research team has found a novel use for the waste.

The study conducted at the Universitat Rovira i Virgili (URV) found the oil from coffee grounds, which makes up about 15 per cent of the waste product, can be extracted and used as a raw material for biofuels, with the remainder of the spent grounds available for other purposes.

The researchers' found their process recovers as much as 90 per cent of oil that can be obtained by the laboratory gold-standard method. The team says their research provides a framework to produce far cleaner sources of oil through a more energy-efficient method of production.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Aviation Biofuels

Amazon invests in GranBio to help drive innovation in sustainable aviation fuel

For decades, discarded wood from logging operations and building sites has gone to waste.

GranBio is working to change that. Its advanced biomass technology converts forestry residues and construction debris into lower-carbon fuels, targeting hard-to-abate sectors like aviation and long-haul trucking. Amazon is supporting this innovative solution, helping fund GranBio's work to deliver a low-cost commercial solution for sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) production from these wastes.

The technology makes SAF and other biobased fuels from waste materials such as leftover branches from forestry operations, crop stalks, and construction debris like discarded pallets and plywood. These materials are abundant across the United States and usually go unused, piling up in landfills or acting as kindling for wildfires.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Mandate statistics 2025: Fifth provisional release

Statistics on the supply of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), reported under the SAF Mandate for 2025, based on data available as of 8 July 2026.

This is the fifth provisional report for 2025 and contains an incomplete dataset for the year. The complete and finalised dataset will be published in November 2026 alongside the final report for 2025.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Sustainability of aviation fuel technologies depends on geography, energy, and feedstock choice: 50-year development scenarios



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This work presents a combined geographically-resolved prospective lifecycle modelling and multi-criteria decision analysis of five sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) production technologies using six waste-derived feedstocks across four leading producer nations (US, China, India, Brazil) from 2025 to 2075. Five hundred forty pathway-scenarios covering the 50-year evolution of each waste-to-fuel pathway are evaluated under three Shared Socioeconomic Pathways.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Allied Biofuels Details Export Routes for Planned \$6.1 Billion Uzbekistan SAF Project

Allied Biofuels has disclosed planned export routes that would carry sustainable aviation fuel from its proposed facility in Uzbekistan to customers in Europe and the United Arab Emirates via rail and sea corridors crossing Kazakhstan, the Caspian Sea, the Black Sea, and the Suez Canal.

The routes are set out in a logistics agreement with Latvia-based Pro Logistic Services that was signed during the 5th Tashkent International Investment Forum in June and announced on July 20.

[Click here for more information.](#)

France's Axens to build SAF production plant using bioethanol

The industrial mid-sized company is reinforcing its position as a leading player in Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF) and entering a new phase aimed at supporting France's energy sovereignty and reindustrialization.

Axens announces the launch of the ERA project (Ethanol to Refuel Aviation), France's first industrial-scale Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) production unit based on advanced bioethanol. With a planned capacity of 50,000 tonnes per year, the facility—currently in the process of site selection in France—is expected to start operations in 2030.

The ERA project further strengthens Axens' industrial commitment to the transition toward low-carbon mobility, alongside the NACRE project (an advanced bioethanol production facility at the Lacq site, which has obtained its construction permit) and the MACARON project (a battery materials production facility in Valenciennes, for which a construction permit application has recently been submitted).

[Click here for more information.](#)

SOCAR Türkiye and Pegasus Take a Strategic Cooperation Step in Sustainable Aviation Fuel

SOCAR Türkiye and Pegasus Airlines have signed a cooperation agreement to advance the development of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), marking a significant step toward supporting the decarbonization of Türkiye's aviation sector, AzerNEWS reports.

According to SOCAR Türkiye, the agreement is aimed at accelerating the energy transition in aviation and promoting lower-carbon air transport.

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Lighthouse Green Fuels confirms land option agreement for multibillion sustainable aviation fuel facility

Global project development, manufacturing and engineering group Alfanar has today announced that it has signed a land option agreement for its Lighthouse Green Fuels (LGF) Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) project in Seal Sands, Teesside.

The agreement secures the site for the development of the multibillion LGF facility, a world-leading second-generation SAF plant that will be one of the largest of its kind globally and is the most advanced in Europe. The project will also be UK's first new refinery since the 1960s.

Located at Seal Sands on the mouth of the River Tees, the site will enable full end-to-end SAF production, from feedstock pre-treatment through to final fuel production and storage. Its proximity to key infrastructure and carbon capture and storage (CCS) networks, will support efficient, ultra-low carbon operations and future scalability.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) revenue certainty mechanism: contract allocation strategy

This strategy provides greater clarity on the approach to allocating contracts under the first allocation round of the sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) revenue certainty mechanism (RCM).

[Click here for more information.](#)

Maritime Biofuels

Repsol and Maersk complete the first bioethanol bunkering operation in the Port of Barcelona



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The operation was carried out under commercial conditions following a loading and unloading operation on a Maersk container vessel, demonstrating the readiness of the infrastructure, logistics, and operational capabilities required to support this type of fuel supply.

The bunker vessel Bahía Candela carried out the operation using its battery system, enabling the bunkering to be completed with zero local emissions in the Port of Barcelona.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Shanghai unveils plans to build international green shipping fuels hub, with methanol a core focus

The municipal government of Shanghai has unveiled plans to build an international green fuels hub for shipping, with methanol bunkering as a core focus — but no plans to supply ammonia.

[Click here for more information.](#)

CMA CGM, Copersucar and Bunker One Complete First Bioethanol Bunkering of a Deep-Sea Containership in Santos

CMA CGM Group, a global player in sea, land, air and logistics solutions; Copersucar, the world's leading sugar and bioethanol trading company; AGEO, the largest liquid bulk storage operator at the Port of Santos; Santos Brazil the biggest container terminal in Brazil and Bunker One, a subsidiary of the Danish Bunker Holding Group, a global leader in bunker fuel trading, successfully completed a bioethanol bunkering operation for the CMA CGM IRON, the first 13,000 TEU tri-fuel certified engine containership, at the Port of Santos on July 12, 2026.

This pioneering operation represents a major milestone for the decarbonization of maritime transport, positions Brazil among the countries capable of carrying out this type of bunkering operation, and reinforces bioethanol as a readily available solution to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the shipping sector.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Price Information

Historical spot prices of liquid fossil fuels and liquid biofuels. Five years of pricing up to July 2026 are given in \$ per barrel.



*Prices of Crude oil, diesel, jet fuel, gasoline and ethanol are recorded from Trading Economics
 Prices for FAME from Neste (NB: Prices for June to August 2024 and January 2025 to present refer to UCOME only)*

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