## Technikon Green Energy Development





November 16, 2009

#### Technikon'sRenewable Energy Testing Center



#### 60,000 sq. ft. Energy Application Validation and Development Laboratory

#### **\_\_\_TECHNIKON**

- Formed in 2000 after the closure of McClellan Air Force Base
- Operating four major DoD Programs for the US Army
- Commercial work:
  - Energy Projects
  - Air Emission Studies
  - Hi-Tech Metals Projects



## **RETC - Reutilization of Government Investment**

- Testing and Validation Model developed under the 1994-2006 Casting Emission Reduction Program (DoD and Auto companies)
- 180+ processes and products validated for energy efficiency and environmental impact
- \$40+ million infrastructure investment by DoD being used in the RETC program
- Technikon'sfacilities, measurement capability and staff are trained for new program
- Currently funded by DoD and private sources

#### Core Competency: Evaluation of High Temperature Processes



High Temperature Processes

- Melting Metal
- Furnaces
- Gasification



Precision Measurement Technologies

- Environmental Measurement
- Energy Measurement
- Productivity and Quality Measurement

# **RETC's Approach to the Evaluation of Technologies**

RETC provides entrepreneurs Industrial shops and technical support for faster scalability evaluation

Emerging technologies converting biomass are measured for:

- Energy efficiency
- Environmental impact
- Economic viability

## Renewable Technology Acceleration Concept

- Increasing number of clean technologies from universities and entrepreneurs
- VC & capital money not readily available until a pilot and data have been demonstrated
- Most innovators create only one or two parts of larger industrial system
- RETC allows "plug-and-play" synergy with before and after components

# **Why Thermal Chemical Focus**

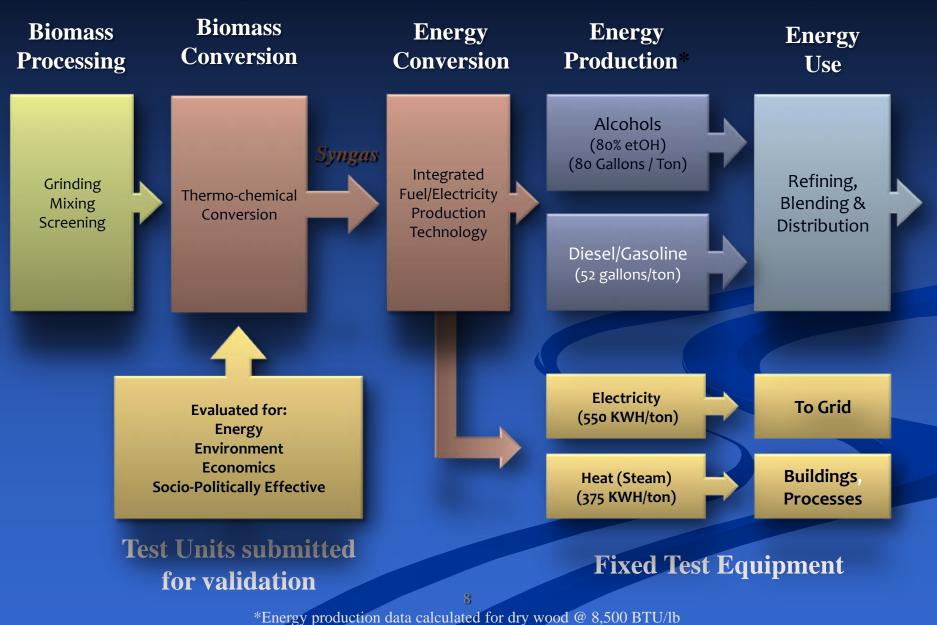
Plant and skills available

 Thermal Chemical Conversion converts biomass to syngas (mix of CO, H2, Methane and CO2)

#### Advantage:

- Economic Maximum use of feedstock
- Robustness –Less sensitive to feedstock variations
- Viability Highest probable success rate, best projected ROI and modular/mobile design capability

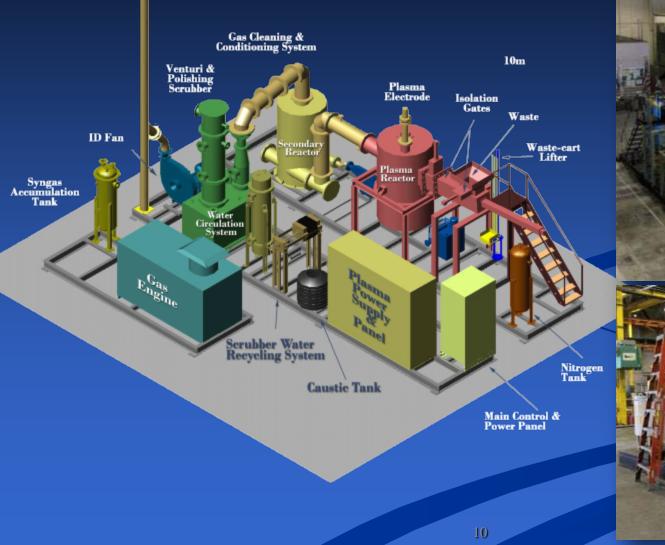
#### **RETC System Evaluation Example**



### **Energy Technology Stakeholders**

- Four Companies have over \$4 Million in equipment installed at RETC
- Five more companies in queue for evaluation
- Each company provides one component of a full renewable energy system
  - Gasification Systems
  - Syngas to Electricity Generator
  - Syngas to Diesel Fuel using Dry Catalyst
  - Algae production for carbon capture and bio-oil

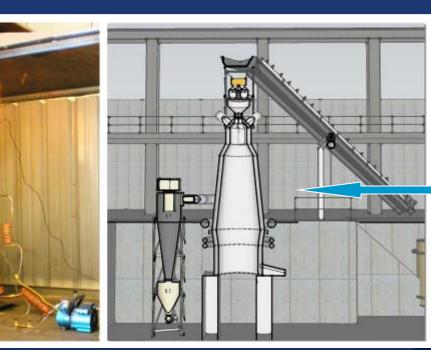
## PEAT Plasma Gasifier and Generator

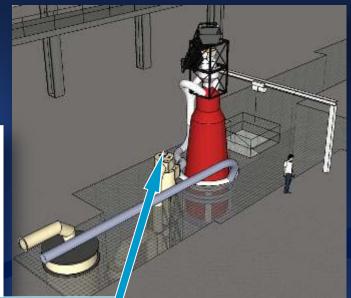




#### **Sierra Energy Gasifier** *for large scale electrical generation*

# Lab Scale Unit





Future Sierra Energy's furnace design to be located at RETC Pacific Renewable Fuels Syngas to Liquid Fuel Demo Unit

- Factory built, modular systems that can be quickly assembled at the plant site.
- Designed to operate 24/7 with little down time.
- Produce a variety of fuels (diesel, ethanol, others) depending on the catalyst used.
- Co-produce fuels, electricity and process steam to maximize plant energy efficiencies up to 60%.

## **Ternion Bio Industries**

#### Utilization of Algae to control CO2 Emissions

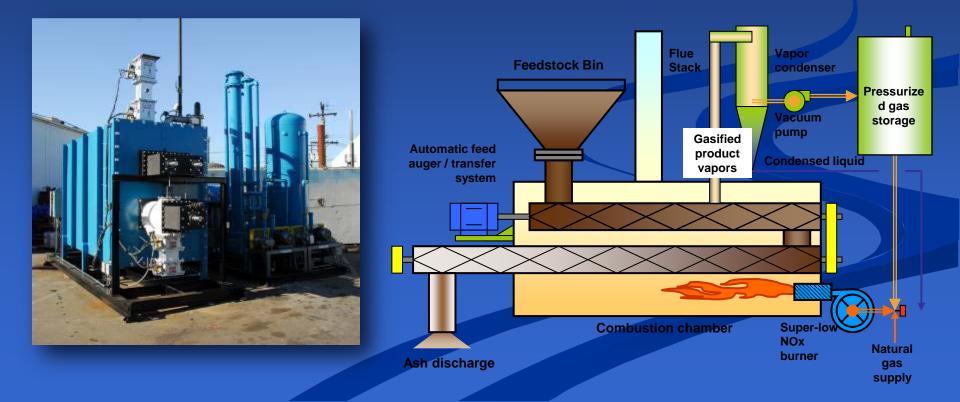
- Photo Bioreactors that provide a controlled algae environment
- Vertical Scalable Systems
- Carbon Dioxide (CO2) used to "feed" any strain of algae
- Producing high-quality raw material for beneficial algaebased products and fuels





#### **Small Gasification to Fuel System** 2 to 24 tons per day of biomassper unit

 EDCI Pyrolysis retort system with a separate gashandling skid tested and gas to liquid fuel system.
Tested by RETC for wood chips to fuel in April 09



#### **Bionic Microwave Liquid Fuel System** 10 to 50 tpd of biomass per unit

Wood or Ag Biomass



Catalyst







Microfuel low temperature MW plant



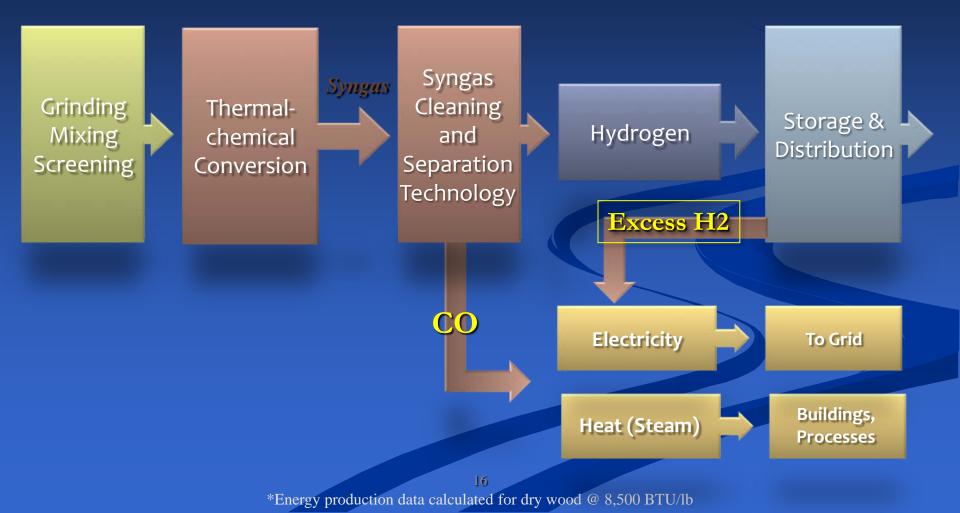


#### **Diesel fuel**



>60% efficiency

#### Example of Components in Biomass to Electricity and Hydrogen Fueling Station





# Advantages of the RETC Approach

Leverages government funding with private sector funding

- Uses partnering as a method to bridge technology gaps
- Existing infrastructure saves development costs and shortens time to market
- Fills a missing gap between R&D and Commercialization
- Gets VC and Equity funding interest much faster