Biofuels make an important contribution to sustainable transportation

What is „Co-Processing“?
The term “co-processing” means in other words “working together”. Through this innovative technology, biogenic feedstocks can be processed together with fossil based raw materials in an existing refinery hydrotreating plant. Co-processing is a key technology for enabling higher sustainability of transportation fuels. At the same time, a higher fuel quality is achieved by co-processing.

Co-Processing ...
► …enables a simple and efficient integration of high quality biofuel production in existing refinery operating units.
► …allows the use of flexible and sustainable feedstocks, ranging from domestic rapeseed oils, used cooking oils to even highly promising algae based oil.
► …makes a significant contribution to increasing the share of renewable energy in the transport sector.

Installing industrial scale co-processing technology
OMV has addressed the subject of co-processing since 2004 and is driving the development of this innovative processing technology.

The co-processing of different biogenic feedstocks has been extensively and successfully researched in pilot plants and laboratory facilities. In 2016, the first field trial in a commercial production plant was successfully completed. Another field trial with an increased bio oil processing quantity was done in 2017. The technical modifications necessary in each of the OMV refineries to enable permanent continuous bio-oil co-processing have been identified and implementation projects are currently in progress. Due to the high complexity of a refinery - the individual operating units and processing steps which must be harmonized like clockwork down to the smallest detail – it is expected that continuous bio-oil co-processing will be possible as of year 2023.

Co-processing as a production step for biogenic fuels as well as for the refinery specific individual greenhouse gas balancing according to EU standard have already been successfully certified with the cooperation of well-known partners.

Experiences
► Co-processing of biogenic oils in refineries efficiently uses existing hydrotreating units.
► The operational adaptations required for continuous co-processing are relatively inexpensive.
► In contrast to conventional bio component blending, co-processing improves the fuel quality – including energy content and the cetane number.

► Due to the high integration within the OMV refineries, a lower individual greenhouse gas footprint for co-processed biofuels can be achieved in comparison to the relevant EU standard values. The greenhouse gas footprint of refinery integrated co-processing is up to 85% less when compared to the relevant EU standard values for comparable finishing step of conventional biofuels.

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Blending

Diesel production
Mineral oil

Bio fuel production
Bio oil

Diesel with biogenic (HVO/HEFA) content

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