



Kohler Switches Brest Manufacturing Site to Low-Carbon HVO Fuel

Substantial emissions reductions achieved with use of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) fuel

24th January, 2023 - Brest, France: [Kohler Power Systems](#), part of Kohler Co., has announced that its headquarters and manufacturing plant in Brest, France has switched all its fuel usage in diesel engines from conventional fossil diesel to Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO). While HVO had previously been used at the Brest site for small-scale development testing within the lab, it is now available for all generator testing.

Effective immediately, the change means that 325,000 litres of fossil diesel that were previously burned at the site each year are now replaced with HVO, reducing CO₂ emissions by approximately 750 tonnes¹. Switching from conventional diesel to HVO reduces greenhouse gas emissions by up to 90%, depending on the raw materials used to make the HVO.

“Taking into account all sources of carbon emissions, including lighting and heating, the shift to HVO has enabled the Brest plant to reduce its overall CO₂ emissions by up to 50%,” said Lenaik Andrieux, General Manager of Kohler Power Systems, EMEA.

To ensure a reliable source of HVO, Kohler has secured a supply agreement from a major provider, which keeps large amounts of HVO at a local storage depot near the Brest site.

Typical tests at the Kohler site include a generator running for 24 or 72 hours, which uses significant amounts of fuel. In 2023, the shift to HVO on the site should create 78% lower emissions than it would have done using fossil diesel.

As well as reducing emissions balance of CO₂, HVO emits less NO_x, and fewer particulates than fossil diesel. HVO is also more stable than fossil diesel, which helps Kohler ensure reliable test results, even if fuel has been in a tank for several months.

HVO is a next-generation renewable fuel which has all the advantages of a sustainable fuel source, with none of the disadvantages of first-generation biodiesels. With no sensitivity to oxidation, HVO can be stored long-term. It is up to 90% carbon neutral and sourced entirely from waste products – making it part of a circular economy.

Kohler’s entire range of mission-critical diesel generators is compatible with HVO, and switching from fossil diesel to HVO is quick and easy. No modifications to previously installed generators are required, allowing for the immediate rollout of renewable fuel to customers. The similarity between HVO and fossil diesel further smooths the shift to biofuel, because the two fuels can be mixed directly in the tank without problems. The HVO fuel option supports Kohler’s commitment to our Better Planet strategy within the Believing in Better operating philosophy that focuses on overarching environmental goals.

Learn more at <https://hvo.kohlerpower.com/#>

¹ Based on UK government figures, that 1 litre produces 2.7kg of CO₂ (see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2022>), and assuming savings of 90% due to switching to HVO. In France, it is 3.1 for B7 from well to wheel. [Documentation Base Carbone \(ademe.fr\)](#)



-END-

PR Contact:

Megan King, Senior Account Director, Publitek

Megan.king@publitek.com

About Kohler Power

A global force in power solutions since 1920, Kohler manufactures engines and complete power systems, including generators (portable, marine, residential, commercial and industrial), automatic transfer switches, switchgear, monitoring controls, and accessories for emergency, prime power and energy-management applications all around the world. The business is committed to reliable, leading edge power-generation products, clean energy solutions, as well as comprehensive after-sale support. For more details, please visit kohlerpower.com

About Kohler Co.

Founded in 1873 and headquartered in Kohler, Wisconsin, Kohler Co. is one of America's oldest and largest privately held companies comprised of more than 40,000 associates. With more than 50 manufacturing locations worldwide, Kohler is a global leader in the design, innovation and manufacture of kitchen and bath products; luxury cabinetry, tile and lighting; engines, generators, and clean energy solutions; and owner/operator of two, five-star hospitality and golf resort destinations in Kohler, Wisconsin, and St. Andrews, Scotland. Kohler's Whistling Straits golf course recently hosted the 43rd Ryder Cup. The company also develops solutions to address pressing issues, such as clean water and sanitation, for underserved communities around the world to enhance the quality of life for current and future generations. For more details, please visit kohlercompany.com