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Marketable bioproducts and biomaterials from research to commercial manufacture for sustainability, greenhouse gas emission reductions and a circular economy

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A photograph of an industrial facility at night, illuminated by warm lights. The structure is complex, with multiple levels of steel frameworks, pipes, and towers. A prominent white sign with the Enerkem logo and name is visible in the middle ground. The sky is a deep blue, suggesting dusk or dawn.

5th International Congress on Green Process Engineering (GPE 2016)

June 2016

Richard Jewell

Senior Chemical Process Specialist / Intellectual Property

Enerkem : Marketable bioproducts and biomaterials from research to commercial manufacture for sustainability, GHG emission reductions and a circular economy



Enerkem at a glance

- Biofuels and renewable chemicals from non-recyclable household garbage
- Proprietary clean technology developed in-house
- Private company founded in 2000; 200 employees
- First full-scale commercial biorefinery beginning operations in Edmonton
 - Pilot and demonstration facilities in Québec
- Developing similar facilities in North America and abroad
 - MOUs in China and EU



The Enerkem solution

Feedstock



Municipal Solid Waste

Approximately
1.3B MT⁽¹⁾ of
trash generated
per year globally

Process



Syngas



Proprietary
Thermochemical
Technology

10 year history –
Largest operating
demo plant in
cellulosic ethanol

Products



Ethanol / Methanol



Renewable Chemicals



Power Generation

Product cost
competitive with
those derived
from fossil-based
feedstocks

Markets



Transportation Fuels

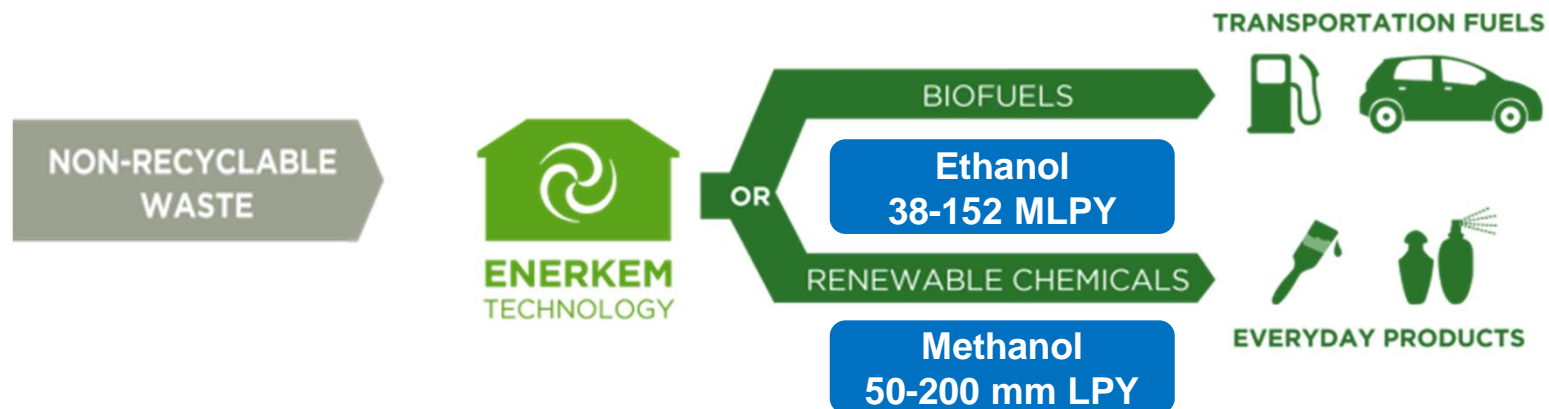


Solvents, Polymers,
Coatings, Plastics,
Adhesives



End Products
Flexibility

Cost-competitive and sustainable solution



Municipality:

- Supplies between 100,000 to 400,000 tons of MSW per year (as available)
- Long-term contract
- Pays tipping fee – attractive compared to status quo
- Suggests sites

Enerkem:

- Technology provider and joint venture partner in \$100 - \$225 M project
- Converts RDF into biofuels and renewable chemicals up to 4x scale of Edmonton
- Works with the waste and municipal partners to optimize MSW sorting into commodities and for site selection
- Manages business risks incl. sale of final product
- Creates high-quality jobs
- Generates \$C65 M/year in net economic benefits in the region (for 1 X standard Enerkem system of 100,000 tons / year)



World's first commercial
MSW-to-biofuels and
chemicals facility

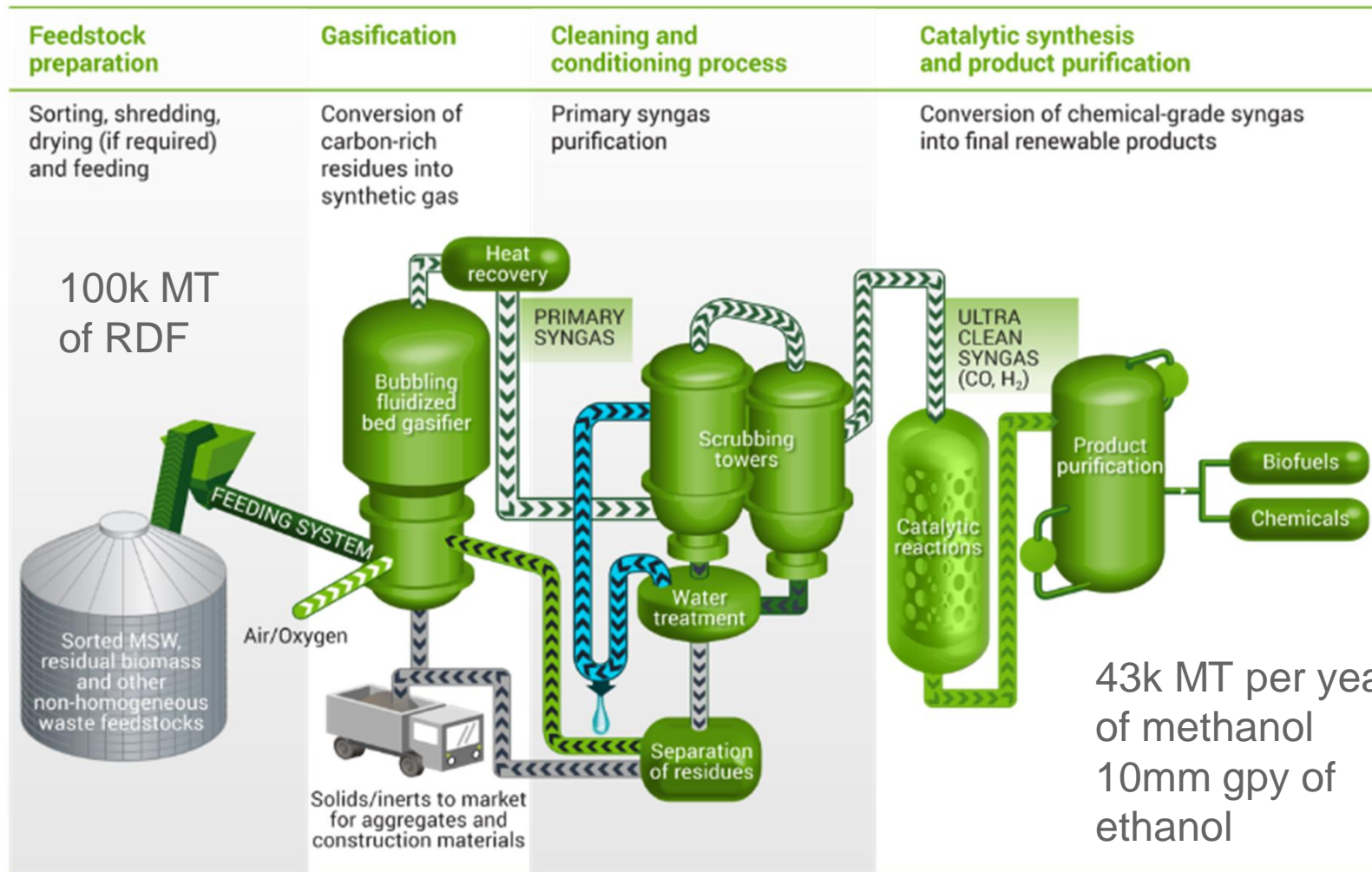
ENERKEM ALBERTA BIOFUELS

Capacity: 38 million litres per year
(i.e. 1 X standard Enerkem system)

Feedstock: 25-year agreement with City of Edmonton
for 100,000 dry tonnes of MSW per year

Products: Biomethanol, cellulosic ethanol

An efficient “carbon-recycling” process



* Municipal solid waste



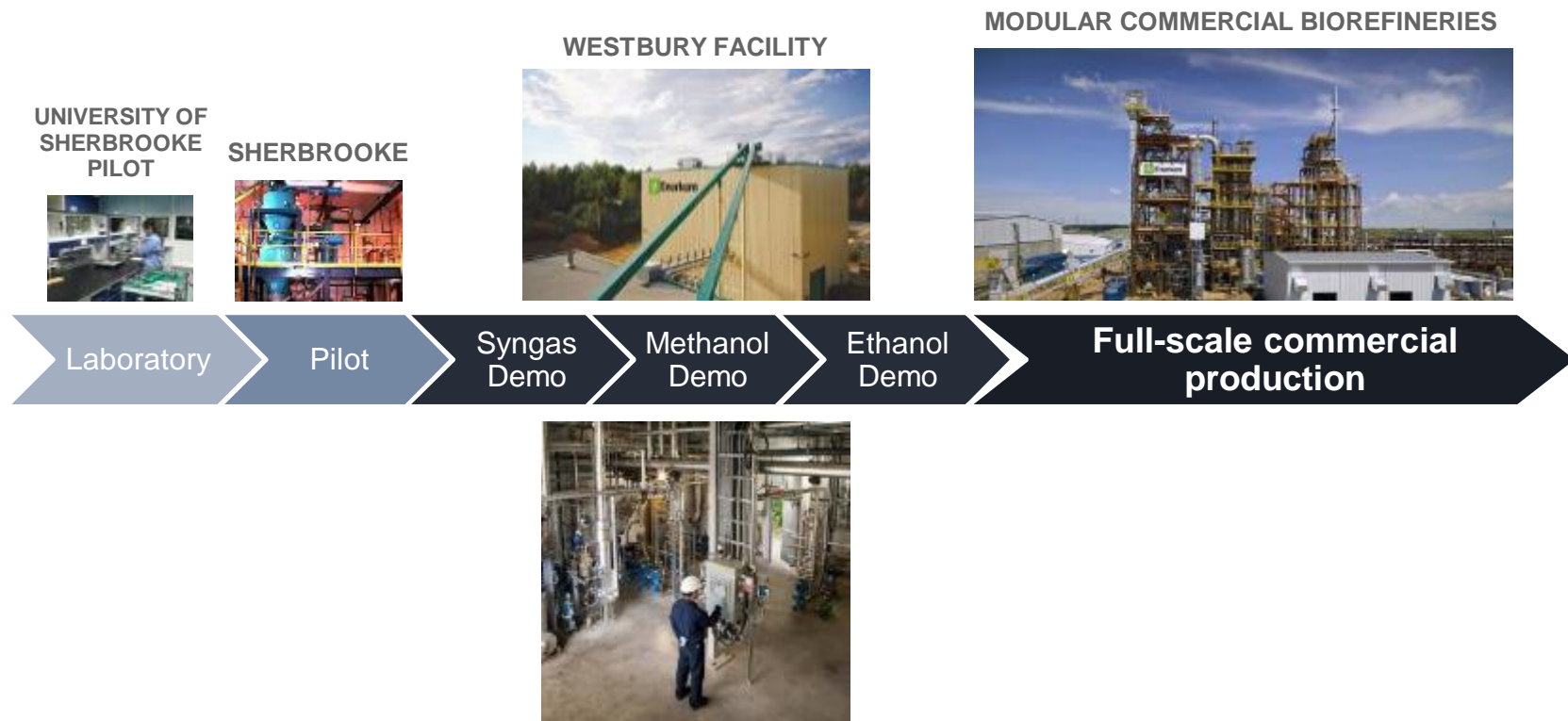
How did Enerkem get here?

- The concept
 - Individuals dreams
 - Seeing potential
 - Selling the idea to others
- The vision
 - Taking the idea
- Numerous Laboratory experiments.
 - Contribution of many researchers
- Pilot testing
 - Numerous researchers and experiments
 - Re-evaluation, innovation and change.
- Realisation



Bringing the model to reality

Rigorous path to commercialization





Pilot to commercial plant

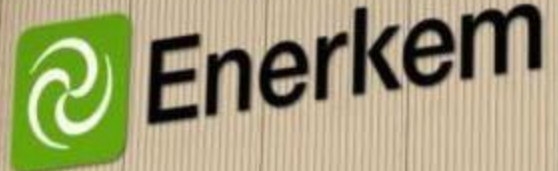
Plant Rollout – A disciplined approach to all stages

- Early concept designs
- Process engineering designs and specification
- Process validation and testing
- Partner identification and sign-up
- Sourcing and materials purchasing
- Permitting and regulations
- Installation site services and support infrastructure
- Funding requirements identified and sourced
- Plant engineering designs
- Detailed engineering designs
- Identification of fabricators and suppliers
- Purchasing and contracts
- Fabrication of plant and equipment
- Construction and installation
- Commissioning
- Production/plant handover



Enerkem facilities

Demonstration facility in Westbury



Ethanol production in Westbury



A photograph of a large industrial facility, likely a research plant, featuring complex machinery, pipes, and scaffolding. A prominent piece of equipment is a large, conical stainless steel vessel. The facility is multi-level with yellow safety railings. Labels like 'GASIFIER' and 'CYCLONE' are visible on the equipment. A green semi-transparent banner is overlaid on the top left.

Advanced Energy Research Facility

Edmonton

 Alberta
Innovates
Energy and
Environment Solutions

Key relationships provide meaningful support

Government and municipalities



Key strategic partnerships



Strong financial backing





Unique partnership with the City of Edmonton

- Leader in waste management practices
- Edmonton Waste Management Centre
 - North America's largest collection of modern, sustainable waste processing and research facilities
 - 233-hectare site
- Enerkem selected as part of a thorough selection process involving over 100 technology providers



City of Edmonton's Integrated Waste Management Centre



Recycled	↔	20%
Composted	↔	40%
Biofuels	↔	30%
Landfill	↔	10%

Waste diversion = **90%**






Benefits of the Enerkem Alberta Biofuels facility

Environmental/Social

- Solves a waste problem and avoids methane emissions
- Reduces GHG emissions by 60% when compared to gasoline
- Can become a model for municipalities around the world



The background of the slide features a collection of laboratory glassware. In the foreground, there are two large Erlenmeyer flasks. The one on the left is filled with a brown liquid and has a scale from 10 to 25 ml. The one in the center is filled with a blue liquid and also has a 25 ml scale. Behind them, several smaller test tubes are visible, some containing pink and yellow liquids. The glassware is set against a light grey background with a subtle reflection effect.

Renewable chemicals from waste
help transition to a circular economy

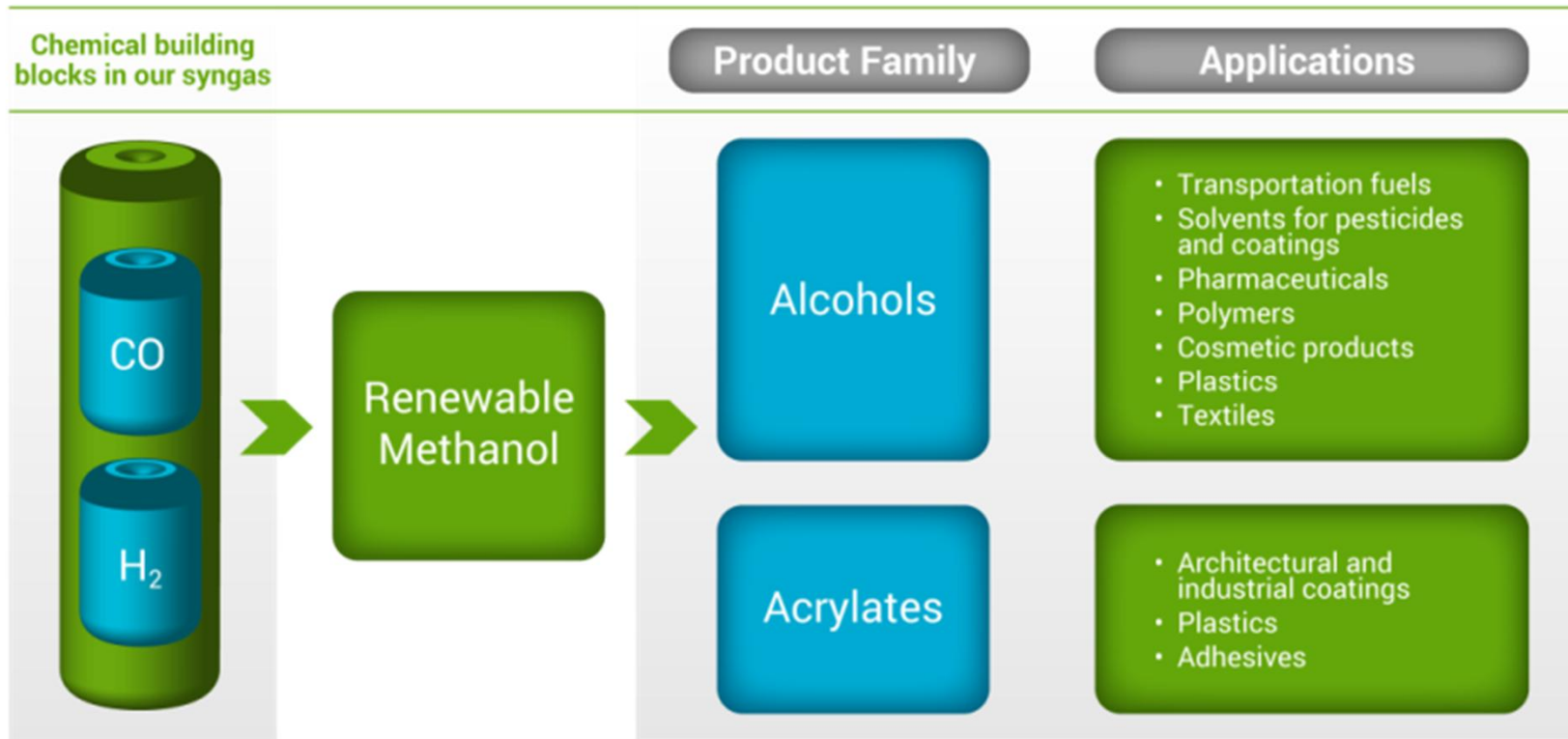
"The concept of a circular economy promises a way out. Here products do not quickly become waste, but are reused to extract their maximum value before safely and productively returning to the biosphere. Most importantly for business leaders, such an economy can deliver growth. Innovative product designers and business leaders are already venturing into this space."

Paul Polman, CEO, Unilever

"A circular economy is one that is restorative and regenerative by design, and which aims to keep products, components and materials at their highest utility and value at all times, distinguishing between technical and biological cycles."

The Ellen MacArthur Foundation

Renewable chemicals for everyday products

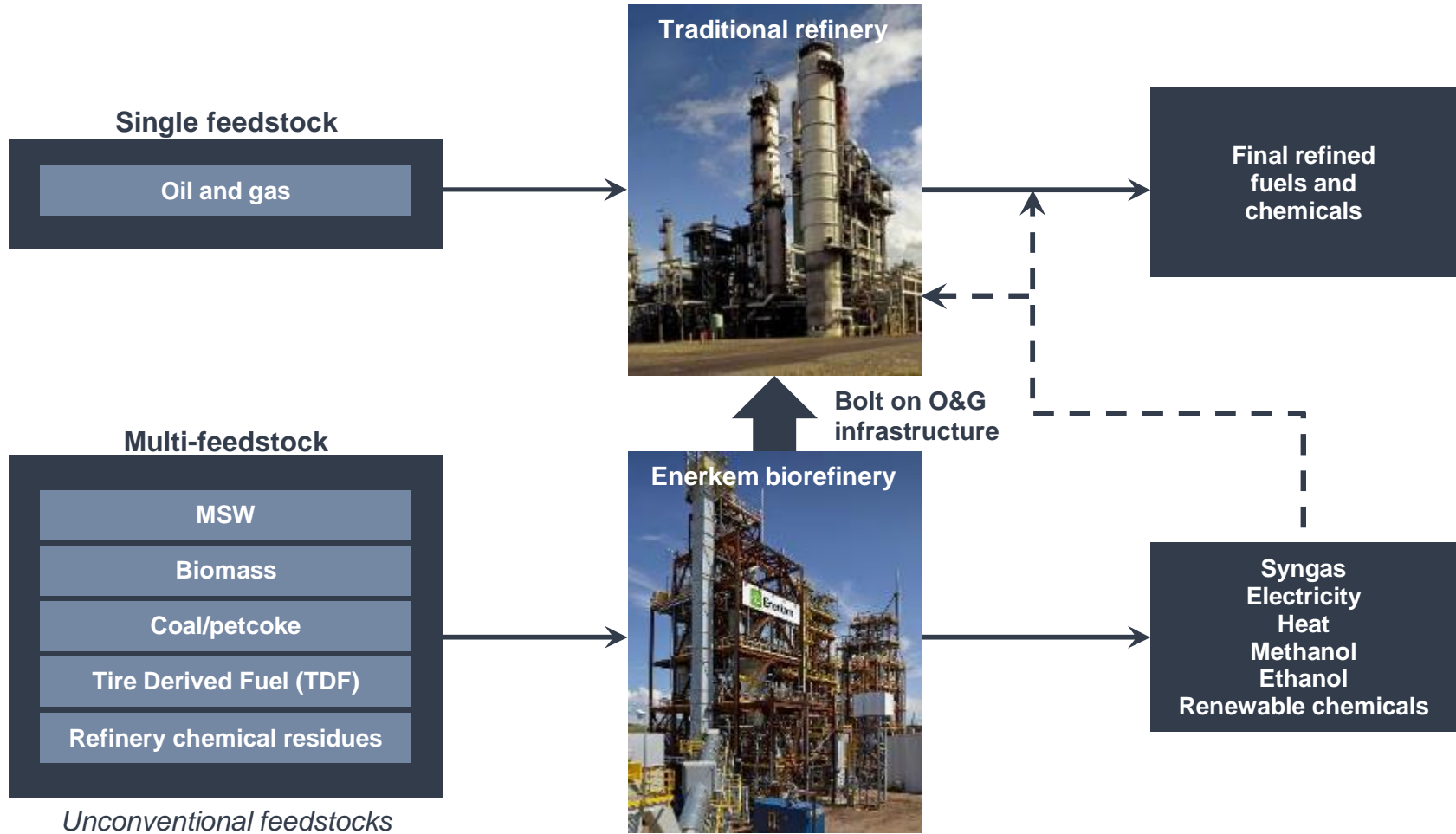


Using waste as a feedstock for the chemical industry

Public-private partnership with AkzoNobel in Europe



Best available solid feedstock bolt-on to existing oil and gas infrastructure





Next facility: VANERCO

First advanced biofuels facility in Canada to be co-located with a conventional biofuels production facility

Capacity: 38 million litres
(1 standard Enerkem system → possibility to add more systems)

Feedstock: Non-recyclable/non-compostable urban waste
(industrial, commercial, institutional, construction, etc.)





Thank you

For more information:

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