

CASE STUDY

Introduction

Our biogas project started, because we want to try distribution of renewable fuels. We chose biogas, because it is 100% renewable and carbon free. Our government has made strict policies against to slow climate change and Finland should be carbon free in year 2035. These policies affect a lot to distributors of fossil fuels. All the fossil fuels in Finland have to fill bio commitment, which is 20% in year 2020. This bio commitment means that 20% of diesel and gas have to be renewable. We have to buy biotickets in order that we can fulfil this goal. We hope that in future we could fulfil this bio commitment with our 100% renewable biogas and we don't have to buy expensive biotickets anymore. This project is also part of our corporate social responsibility program.

Name and description of the project

Our project is called SEO Biokaasu, which is in English SEO Biogas. In this project we build two biogas stations, which are our pilot stations. The stations will be in northern Finland in Ala-Temmes and Oulu (Kaakkuri). We thought that northern Finland is good pilot area, because there isn't a lot of biogas stations. These biogas stations will be next to our fossil fuel stations.

Project goals

The main goal of this project is to fulfil bio commitment and slow climate change. At the same time we hope that our biogas stations are success among finnish consumers. If these pilot biogas stations fulfil our goals, we will open more of them and raise our market share in renewable fuels.

Technology used

We have started to build our first biogas station in Ala-Temmes and it will be open in May 2020. The building project started by setting concrete slab with bulwark to biogas containers. Both of our biogas stations will have two biogas containers. The next phase is to build intermediate landing to compressor and biogas. The last phase is to build dispensers and cover shelter.

In Kaakkuri we will have a little bit different solution than in Ala-Temmes. The biogas station will be apart from the fossil fuel station in Ala-Temmes. In Kaakkuri our customers can fuel their biogas cars from the same forecourt than fossil fuel cars. The structure and all technical issues are same in Ala-Temmes and Kaakkuri.

Implementation

Our Field Manager Juha Tikka is the Project Manager of this biogas project. He is responsible for all technical issues. Our CEO Arto Viljanen, our CFO Toni Suutari and our chairman of the board Jan Väliheikki take care of purchases.

Impact

SEO is the first fossil fuel distributor in Finland, which open biogas stations. We believe that biogas cars will be the biggest competitors for electric cars in the future. Biogas is also a cheaper option than electricity, because you can convert your old fossil fuel car into biogas car. It costs only 2000-4000 euros depend of car model.

Challenges / Lessons learned

Building the Biogas station have to obey commands of TUKES (Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency). Biogas station is more technical totality than fossil fuel station, so building process needs more careful delving into all guidelines. Technical issues and all the guidelines might effect a lot to the timetable. In these building projects we tried to avoid difficulties, that our building partner had with other biogas station building projects. When we found some troubles with technical issues, we will figure out better solutions in our becoming biogas stations.

Future plans / long term strategy

These two station are our pilots and we will pick up experience of them, before we will make decisions of follow investments. We have put a lot of faith to this project, so we are looking new places all the time, in which we could get more competitive advantage against our competitors.

Picture



Here is our SEO-biogas logo. That is only picture I can give you now. Both of our biogas stations will be open in May or June. I can send you pictures later, when one of those stations is ready.

Contact

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