

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Dedication Ceremony for the First Dry Fermentation Anaerobic Digester in the Americas**

Madison, Wisconsin. The dedication of the very first high solids dry fermentation anaerobic digester (HSAD) took place on May 18, 2011 at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. It will be the first biogas plant using this technology to go on-line, not only in the United States, but in all of the Americas. The facility, owned by the University, is designed and constructed by BIOFerm™ Energy Systems, a member of the Viessmann Group, an international leader in heating systems and renewable energy technology, including biogas, photovoltaic, solar thermal, geothermal and biomass.

The keynote speakers at the event were UW Oshkosh Chancellor Richard Wells and Mr. Joachim Janssen, CFO and head of the Viessmann biogas sector. In his keynote address Chancellor Wells reiterated the University's aim of including sustainability in every aspect of the institution's engagement, from course curricula to the facilities master plan. Mr. Janssen emphasized Viessmann's commitment to achieve and promote sustainability. Through implementing the project "Efficiency Plus" Viessmann was able to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of their German headquarters by 40 percent. The shared vision of the University and Viessmann made them ideal partners for realizing this pioneering project.

The BIOFerm™ biogas plant will be a significant cornerstone of the University's ambitious plan to achieve carbon neutrality on its campus. The plant will take high-solids organic material – food waste, yard waste and crop residue – and turn it into heat and electricity. The plant utilizes a combined heat and power unit (CHP), manufactured by 2G Cenergy. On average, 2,320,000 kWh will be generated annually, providing 8% of the University's electricity needs on its campus. Additionally, the plant will generate 7,900 MMBTU of thermal energy to heat adjacent buildings on campus.

The dedication ceremony was part of an entire day focused on innovations in sustainability at UW Oshkosh, including introducing the idea of a Renewable Energy Institute offering seminars on green innovations. More than 100 guests, representing higher education institutions, government agencies, and the industry, were present. Additional events surrounding the dedication included presentations and question sessions presented by BIOFerm™ President/CEO Nadeem Afghan and Vice-Chancellor Tom Sonnleitner. The day concluded with sessions in which the participants discussed with UW Oshkosh personnel about sustainability in business, municipalities or education.

In the United States alone, the opportunity for utilizing biogas to generate energy is tremendous – food waste being just one of many possible input materials. The Viessmann Group, having constructed over 250 biogas plants in Europe, is fully invested in promoting this technology in North America. BIOFerm™ Energy Systems is currently preparing to launch additional dry fermentation anaerobic digester projects in the United States this year.

#### **About BIOFerm™ Energy Systems:**

BIOFerm™ is located in Madison, Wisconsin, and delivers Viessmann's biogas projects in North America, including dry and wet fermentation anaerobic digesters. As a leading renewable energy provider, BIOFerm™ has continuously created new professional and engineering positions since its founding in 2007 and is continuing to expand.

For further information please contact Caroline Chappell at [ChaC@biofermenergy.com](mailto:ChaC@biofermenergy.com) or visit:

Company website of BIOFerm™ Energy Systems – [www.biofermenergy.com/us](http://www.biofermenergy.com/us)

Company website of the Viessmann Group – [viessmann.com/com/en](http://viessmann.com/com/en)

Information about the Biodigester on the University's website – [www.uwosh.edu/biodigester](http://www.uwosh.edu/biodigester)