



## The ValChem project now starts to deliver sugar

**The ValChem project, in which chemical and technology company SEKAB participates as one of four players, has now delivered the first larger quantities of sugar solution. The project develops and demonstrates how green chemical products can be produced using raw material from the forest.**

The ValChem project has begun to produce results in the form of deliveries of cellulosic sugar from the demonstration plant at SEKAB in Örnsköldsvik. During 2016 SEKAB has produced and delivered more than twenty tons of cellulosic sugars. In the next stage of the process the cellulosic sugar will be converted to monopropylene glycol (MPG), which is a base chemical for many chemical products, such as paints, resins, varnishes and hygiene articles. Lignin is also extracted in the process, which can be used to produce for example resins and bioplastics.

- With the demonstrated technologies, the wood based feedstock can replace fossil based raw material, and this of course implies huge environmental and climate benefits. We at SEKAB are very proud to have been selected to participate in this important project, says Marlene Mörtzell, CelluAPP® Technology Manager at SEKAB E-Technology.

SEKAB's role in the project is to demonstrate its CelluAPP® technology, which can be used to extract cellulosic sugars and lignin from wood, straw and other biomass, into separate product streams. The CelluAPP® technology was selected for the ValChem project because of its verified performance and capabilities together with SEKAB's extensive experience and know-how within the field of biomass conversion.

- SEKAB wants to contribute to a more sustainable society by producing and developing renewable chemicals products. All chemicals currently made from fossil oil could be produced from renewable biomass instead, such as waste streams from the forest industry, says Marlene Mörtzell.

The ValChem project was started in 2015 by the Finnish bio and forest industry company UPM. In addition to UPM and SEKAB one company and university, METabolic EXplorer and

Technische Universität Darmstadt, within the forestry, chemical and biotechnology industries participate in the project. The project provides the basis for the full-scale production of bio-based chemical products. This project has received funding from the Bio Based Industries Joint Undertaking under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 669065. All wood raw materials used in ValChem are sustainably produced.



**For further information:**



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