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Stora Enso Oyj  
Company Announcement

## Stora Enso to build demonstration plant in Louisiana, USA

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Following its recent acquisition of the US-based biotechnology company Viridia, Stora Enso is investing EUR 32 million (USD 43 million) in a demonstration and market development plant to be built at Raceland, Louisiana, USA. The plant will be used for industrial validation of the newly acquired extraction and separation technology developed by Viridia that enables cellulosic biomass, such as wood or agricultural waste, to be converted into highly refined sugars. The investment serves the feasibility of the technology on industrial scale in the future, possibly also in some of Stora Enso's existing pulp mills.

The demonstration plant will be located in the vicinity of existing sugar cane plantations and will use bagasse waste as feedstock. Sugar cane bagasse is a sustainable, non-genetically-modified feedstock that does not compete with food. It will be used to produce high purity five-carbon sugars and in particular xylose. These sugars will be converted and upgraded for applications in, for example, food and personal care.

"This investment marks the next step in our strategy for new markets and applications. It will enable validation of the technology developed by Viridia and its applicability to different types of biomass. Our goal is to develop and commercialise cost-effective renewable solutions to address well-identified market-driven needs and add value to our current cellulosic streams," says Juan Carlos Bueno, EVP, Stora Enso Biomaterials.

The Raceland demonstration plant is scheduled to start production early 2017.

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*Stora Enso is the global rethinker of the paper, biomaterials, wood products and packaging industry. We always rethink the old and expand to the new to offer our customers innovative solutions based on renewable materials. Stora Enso employs some 29 000 people worldwide, and our sales in 2013 amounted to EUR 10.6 billion. Stora Enso shares are listed on NASDAQ OMX Helsinki (STEAV, STERV) and Stockholm (STE A, STE R). In addition, the shares are traded in the USA as ADRs (SEOAY) in the International OTCQX over-the-counter market.*

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