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## Topell Energy Technology Pioneer of the World Economic forum

The [World Economic Forum](#) has announced today that Topell Energy B.V. has been selected to be part of the select group of **Technology Pioneers 2011**. Every year, after a thorough selection process, innovative companies are selected as Technology Pioneers of the prestigious World Economic Forum. They are mostly start-up companies that are developing new technologies which contribute meaningfully to the enhancement of society, market and environment.

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The selection comprises three categories:

1. Biotechnology and health
2. Energy and environment technology
3. Information technology/New Media

Earlier nominated Technology Pioneers include GOOGLE® and TWITTER®.

## International recognition for the process of biomass torrefaction and the leadership of Topell Energy

For Topell Energy, the selection to become Technology Pioneer is an acknowledgement of the role of biomass in safeguarding our energy production, and a recognition of the torrefaction process applied by Topell Energy. Thanks to the torrefaction process, a high-grade solid bio-fuel can be produced from low-value woody biomass. This bio-fuel is suitable for the sustainable production of electricity.

This new technology is a breakthrough, because it enables the production of a new biofuel at low costs with similar characteristics as coal. It can be used directly, and in large volumes, in existing power plants.

Recently, Topell Energy has started building a torrefaction factory in Duiven (the Netherlands); the first Topell biofuel will be produced in the beginning of 2011 and will be used in the Amer power plant of Essent (a Dutch utility company) in Geertruidenberg (the Netherlands).

**Ewout maaskant, CEO of Topell Energy** says: 'We are pleasantly surprised by this international recognition of our work. A selection as Technology Pioneer by the leaders of the World Economic Forum is a great encouragement to continue our efforts to contribute to a cleaner energy supply with our sustainable and high-grade bio-fuel and our technology'.

**Minister Van der Hoeven of Economic Affairs** reacts with joy: 'Recently I was in the position to officially start the building of the factory in Duiven. I strongly believe in an Energy Policy that is both innovative and economically sustainable. The fact that the Dutch Topell Energy has received this prize by the leaders of the World Economic Forum shows that a new generation of entrepreneurs in our country has understood what they can contribute to a better and cleaner future. I congratulate Topell Energy with this great selection'.

Two important elements have prevailed for the selection: first, the awareness that the use of biomass is essential to achieve the sustainable environmental goals and second, the fact that the processed biomass can be used directly, without any further investments, in existing power plants. The latter makes sustainable energy supply affordable and achievable in the short term.

**Note for the editor:**

Sender of this press release is Topell Energy.

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*Topell Energy BV is based in The Hague (The Netherlands). Topell Energy BV (The Hague) was founded on 1 January 2010 as a result of a merger between the Dutch technology companies Topell BV and Polow Energy Systems BV. Topell Energy BV is a world leader in the development of torrefaction technology. Its first commercial plant in Duiven (in the Dutch province of Gelderland) is expected to begin producing torrefied biomass at the beginning of 2011 ([www.topellenergy.com](http://www.topellenergy.com)).*