NEWS RELEASE

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TRI Successfully Passes 1,000 Hour Mark of Integrated Operation of its Thermochemical Biorefinery Demonstration Unit in Durham, North Carolina

Four ton per day, state-of the-art biomass-to-fuels facility gasifies a mix of woody biomass feedstocks to produce renewable fuels over an extended operating period

Durham, NC April 20, 2010 -- ThermoChem Recovery International (TRI), a leading renewable energy technology company headquartered in Baltimore, MD, today announced that it had recently surpassed 1,000 hours of integrated operation of its state-of-the-art biomass-to-liquids process demonstration unit (PDU) in Durham, North Carolina. The PDU transforms biomass into a synthetic gas or "syngas," which is catalytically converted to produce liquid fuels and other bio-based chemicals. Biomass gasification is considered to be a key technology platform for advanced cellulosic biofuels, and a primary means for reducing our nation's dependence on foreign oil and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

"This is a significant technical and commercialization achievement for us and for our biorefinery partners," said TRI President & CEO, Daniel A. Burciaga. Using its proprietary two-stage steam reforming gasification process and a fixed-bed Fischer-Tropsch reactor with a proprietary Emerging Fuels Technology catalyst, TRI converted several hundred tons of 100% woody biomass feedstock into clean hydrocarbon diesel fuel and waxes.

"Congratulations are in order to ThermoChem Recovery for reaching this milestone," said Steven Burke, the President and CEO of the Biofuels Center of North carolina. "TRI's presence here furthers our mission of developing a sustainable, statewide biofuels industry to reduce this dependence, creating jobs, opportunity and prosperity for North Carolinians."

TRI conducted the integrated trial in conjunction with Department of Energy (DOE)-supported biorefinery projects, including Flambeau River Biofuels (FRB)'s Park Falls 1,000 Ton Per Day project. "The DOE set a high bar, and passing 1,000 hours of integrated trial run time is a crucial project milestone for us. We are pleased to be on track with our project timeline to break ground in Park Falls (WI) in the fall of this year," said FRB CEO William "Butch" Johnson.

"We have the full set of unit operations here in Durham that will be found in a commercial biorefinery. We have proven that we can run them in their fully integrated configuration and that the integrated process produces the desired, high-quality, sulfur-free fuels," reported TRI VP of Projects and Engineering David G. Newport. TRI's demonstration unit can process 4 dry tons of biomass per day. The 1.0 MW_{th} PDU is designed to be easily integrated into a variety of downstream catalytic processes to produce renewable fuels, chemicals and power. The PDU has the flexibility to gasify any form of

biomass, and provides analytical and engineering data needed for process evaluation and commercial scale-up.

“With the conclusion of this extended, fully-integrated woody biomass-to-fuels trial, we are now preparing to conduct additional multi-day trials on switchgrass, sorghum and on Refuse-Derived Fuel. Our integrated system allows us to evaluate different types of feedstocks and produce various biofuels to support a range of commercial gasification projects,” added Newport.

“This is a proud moment for TRI and our project partners as we surpass a high-bar milestone for such demonstration activities,” added Burciaga. “The development of advanced biofuels is here to stay and TRI and our partners are playing a major role in this bioenergy movement.”

TRI, which was founded in 1996, is a leading renewable energy technology company commercializing thermochemical biorefinery systems for the production of biofuels and clean energy from non-food biomass feedstocks. TRI is a key technology provider for multiple biorefinery projects and is engaged in a range of commercial-scale projects. The PDU is located at Southern Research Institute’s Carbon 2 Liquids™ facility in Durham, NC.

For more information, please visit www.tri-inc.net

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