

TECHNOLOGY FOR A SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW



FOCUS

**german
pellets**

Vecoplan®

TECHNOLOGY FOR A SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW



PARTNERING TO SATISFY INCREASING DEMAND
IN THE WOOD PELLET EXPORT MARKET

Vecoplan®

WINTER 2012 - WOODVILLE, TEXAS

**Building construction began on the new German Pellets wood pellet production facility in Woodville, TX.
During the summer of 2013, the first wood pellets were produced and shipped to Europe.**

The rapidly increasing demand for wood pellets worldwide means that construction of large production capacity pellet plants is on the rise. In July 2012, the British Department of Energy and Climate significantly improved the conditions for companies generating power from wood pellets. Accordingly, current market studies are predicting that the United Kingdom could become the world's largest pellet market. There are also power stations in other European countries, especially in Scandinavia and the Benelux, that are being converted to renewable energies.

German Pellets GmbH saw the potential here in the US and took action. Long-term supply agreements were put in place for the required raw materials as the location of the South-Eastern US site was finalized. Woodville, TX was considered a very attractive area for pellet manufacturing owing to its rich timber resources and mild climate, where forests grow approximately three times as fast as they do in Germany. In addition, the paper and pulp industry has significantly reduced its production capacities, meaning that wood will be available in sufficient quantities for the long term.



Work on the 80 hectare site in Woodville began in November 2012. German Pellets GmbH relied on its longstanding relationships with suppliers, such as **Vecoplan**[®], to equip the new site with material handling and processing machinery that has been used successfully for many years in its European plants. The company will also be purchasing equipment from American machinery manufacturers and equipment suppliers. Due to the highly experienced team of equipment manufacturers, suppliers and contractors that was assembled by German Pellets GmbH, the whole erection period for the machinery - including commissioning - took only 5 months.

The Woodville facility is designed for an annual capacity of 578,000 metric tons. Though capacity is a very important piece of the puzzle when undertaking a project of this size and scope, the most important goal of German Pellets GmbH is to meet all the required standards for all the wood pellets leaving the plant. This can only be done with high quality and reliable machinery that produces a consistent product; therefore, **Vecoplan**[®] equipment was chosen for transporting, resizing, screening and storage of the raw feedstock and finished wood pellets.

SPRING 2013 - URANIA, LOUISIANA

Construction began on one of the World's largest wood pellet plants as German Pellets further expanded its North American operations in Urania, LA. Production of more than 1 million metric tons per year is scheduled to begin in early 2014.

German Pellets is further expanding its production capacities in North America. In Urania, a town in northern Louisiana, German Pellets began construction work on a new pellet production facility. The output will be about 1 million metric tons of wood pellets per year. Urania will be the German Pellets Group's second North American site following the successful construction of their first pellet plant in Woodville, TX.

The forestry industry is the second largest employer in the well-wooded state of Louisiana. The forests are managed sustainably. The new German Pellets production facility in Urania will create some 500 jobs in the region, both directly and indirectly.



German Pellets will produce one million metric tons of wood pellets per year in Urania, twice as much as in its first US plant in Woodville, TX. "Pellet consumption worldwide is on the rise, especially in Europe. This means that the construction of large production capacities is necessary," said German Pellets CEO Peter Leibold. The demand from the European power plant market for the production of heat and electricity from wood pellets has risen sharply. There is also an increasing demand for wood pellets among private consumers and large-scale users, for example, for supplying heat to hospitals, schools, commercial buildings and industrial facilities.

Assembling a dedicated and experienced team to repeat the success already experienced in Woodville, TX was essential. Once again German Pellets selected **Vecoplan**[®] to be an integral part of this team, providing equipment that would receive, resize, convey, screen and store materials at various steps throughout the entire pellet manufacturing process.

For the transport of wood pellets from the Urania and Woodville sites to Europe, German Pellets will be using the harbor of Port Arthur on the Gulf of Mexico. At the deep-water port, German Pellets recently built storage and loading systems to aid in the transfer of the wood pellets to ships heading to Europe.

COMMISSIONING

Summer 2013

ANNUAL THROUGHPUT CAPACITY

578,000 metric tons of wood pellets

PROCESS DESCRIPTION

Mechanical feedstock processing system designed to produce wood pellets for export to European markets

MECHANICAL PROCESS STEPS

- Receiving
- Re-Sizing
- Conveying
- Screening
- Storage

ABOUT GERMAN PELLETS

German Pellets GmbH was founded in 2005 in Wismar (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany) and has since become the leading manufacturer of wood pellets in Europe. German Pellets produces wood pellets and animal-hygiene products at 14 sites in Germany and Austria. Wood pellets are made from wood shavings and sawdust pressed into a cylindrical shape. They can be used for a wide range of applications – in private households, in industrial and commercial facilities and for the production of electricity and heat.

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VECOPLAN TECHNOLOGY GERMAN PELLETS PLANT - WOODVILLE, TX



German Pellets Plant in Woodville, TX

VECOPLAN SCOPE

Scope of supply:

- Chain Conveyors
- Belt Conveyors
- Vecobelt Conveyor
- Screw Conveyors
- Hammermills (x7)
- Bark Chippers
- Oscillating Screeners
- Disc Screeners
- Stone Traps
- Magnetic Separators
- Pull Rod Floor
- Screw Bottom Bins
- Swiveling Belt Storage
- Complete Control System

PLANT LOCATION

OPERATOR AND OWNER

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