

BIOECONOMY 2017

U.S. Department of Energy

Ethanol Conversion to Fungible Gasoline, Diesel, and Jet Fuel Blend Stocks and High Value Chemical Coproducts (BTEX)

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July 11-12, 2017
The Pitch for a Prosperous Future

Vertimass Technology

The Problem

Ethanol Producer



Maximum 10% Renewable Ethanol in Gasoline



Ethanol "blend wall"

Vertimass Solution

Vertimass
Conversion
Process

Renewable
Chemicals (BTEX)



Renewable Jet Fuel

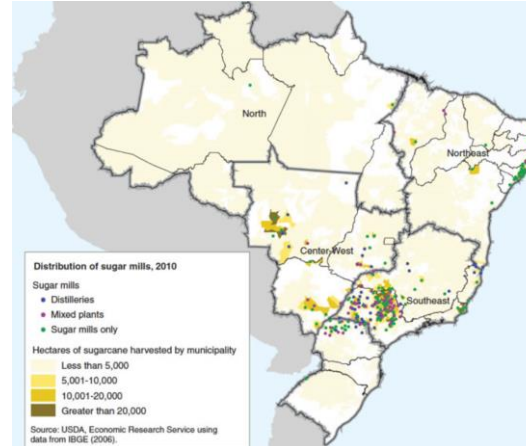
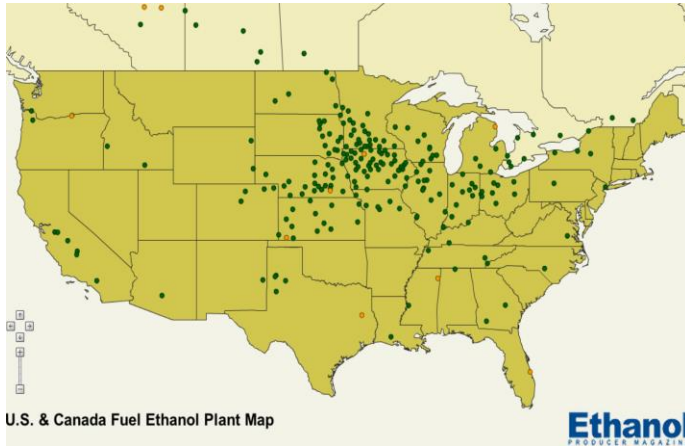


Renewable
Gasoline &
Diesel Fuels



Market & End Users

Sugar, Starch & Cellulosic Ethanol Producers (U.S., Brazil, Worldwide)¹



220 Plants in US
(~15 billion gallons/yr)

126 Plants in Brazil
(~6 billion gallons/yr)

Fuel & Chemical Markets ^{2,3}

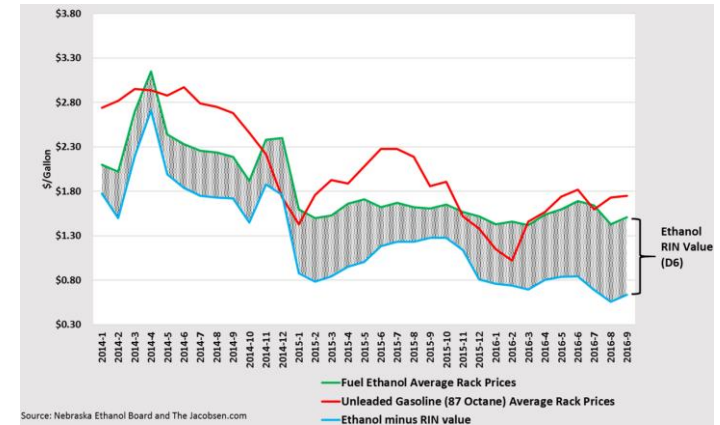
Fuels & Chemicals	Current Billion gal/yr (2016)	Market Size (\$Billion)
Gasoline	143.4	215.1
Diesel	58.9	88.3
Jet Fuel	23.7	35.6
BTEX	44.0	110.0
Total	270.0	449.0

1. http://www.energyresourcefulness.org/Fuels/ethanol_fuels/modern_production_of_ethanol.html

2. <https://www.eia.gov> 3. Assumes Fuel price \$1.5/gal, BTX Price \$2.5/gal

Benefits & Advantages

- Allows product flexibility for ethanol producers to take advantage of market shifts and maximize profits ¹
- Allows producers to lower plant water and energy usage (overall lower GHG emissions) ²
- Employ existing pipeline network with fungible fuels (rather than transporting via truck & rail with ethanol) ³



Greenhouse Gas Reductions ²

Ethanol Feedstock	% GHG reductions
Corn	25%
Sugarcane	61%
Cellulosic	>95%



1. <http://farmdocdaily.illinois.edu/2015/09/why-isnt-price-ethanol-rins-plummeting.html>

2. Renewable Fuels Association (RFA) http://ethanolrfa.org/page/-/rfa-association-site/studies/rfs_ghgs_at_a_glance.pdf?nocdn=1

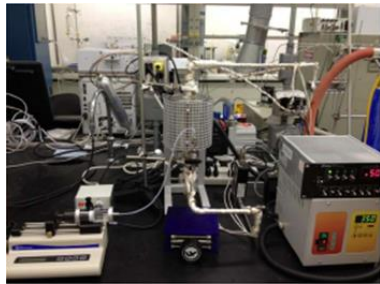
3. http://www.energyresourcefulness.org/Fuels/ethanol_fuels/modern_production_of_ethanol.html

Technology Readiness

TRL3



Lab scale
2012-2014



(0.20 g Catalyst)

TRL4



Small Pilot
2016-2017Q2



(30 g Catalyst)

TRL5

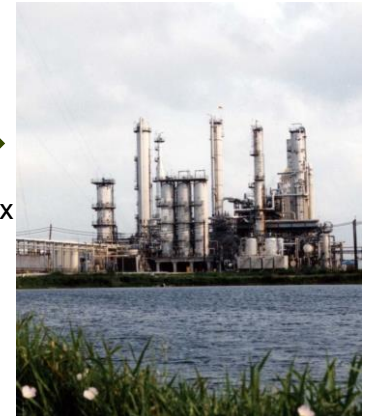


Larger Pilot
2017Q2-2018



(600 g Catalyst)

Commercial
Operations
2019Q3



(13,700 kg Catalyst)

150x

3000x

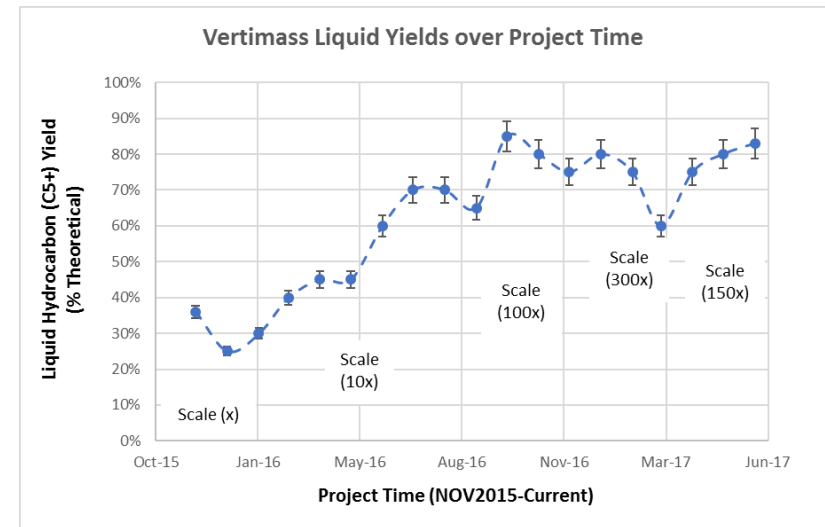
68,000,000x

Facility	Scale (x)
Oak Ridge National Lab	x
TechnipFMC small pilot	150 x
TechnipFMC large pilot	3,000 x
Commercial	68,000,000 x

Scale-up from larger pilot to
commercial guaranteed
(no valley of death with Demo)

Technical Accomplishments

- Technology:** successfully transferred from ORNL to TechnipFMC
- Stoichiometric conversion:** confirmed 100% conversion of ethanol to HCs and water from ORNL to TechnipFMC
- High Yields:** Increased liquid hydrocarbon yields (C5+) from 36% (initial validation) up to ~80% in 15 months
- Scale-up:** 150x scale-up in this time frame (ready for next scale)
- No external hydrogen**
- Mild Conditions:** Low temperature (350 °C) and pressure operations (60 psi) operations.
- Wet ethanol feedstock:** 5-100% ethanol concentrations on V-ZSM-5 & Ga-ZSM-5 have minimal effect.



Low CapEx & OpEx

- Capital Costs have historically been a significant challenge for new biofuel plants
- Vertimass Bolt-on Costs ~12% CapEx for new starch plant, ~4% CapEx for new Cellulosic Ethanol Plant

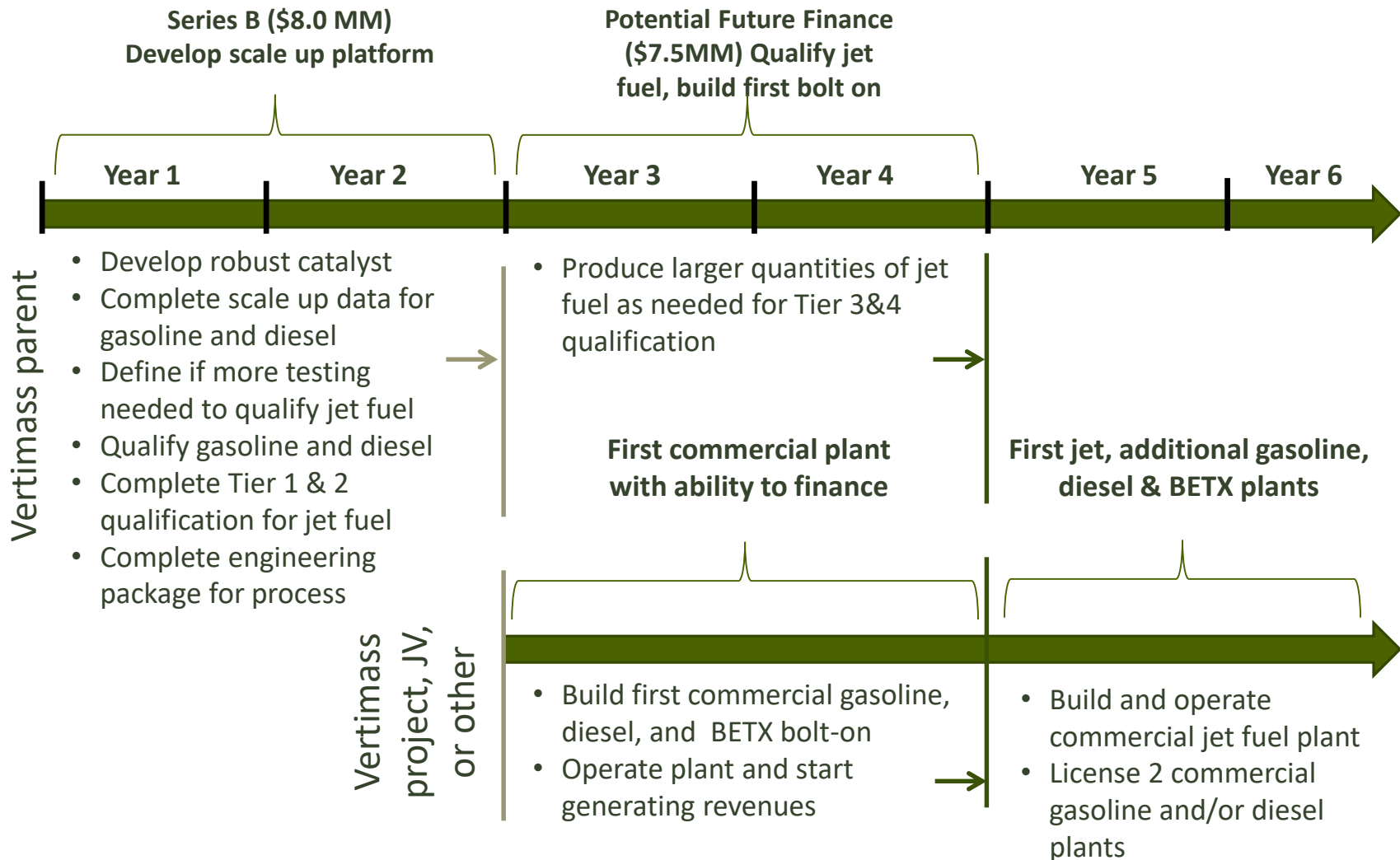
	Starch Plant ¹	Cellulosic Plant ²	Vertimass Bolt-On
Ethanol (MMGPY)	61.0	61.0	61.0
CapEx (\$MM)	139.3	422.5	17.0
CapEx (\$/gal)	2.28	6.93	0.28

- Operating Costs ~\$0.06/gal Ethanol (added to ethanol production cost) mainly for catalyst

Challenges to Overcome

- Maximizing liquid hydrocarbon yields portion of product (reaching up to 80%+ now but targeting 90%+)
- Transferring to commercial form of catalyst (working with commercial catalyst producer)
- Securing “first adopter” ethanol plant (currently have verbal agreement)
- Finalizing bolt-on integration with ethanol plant engineering design company (currently in process)
- Qualifying our fuel products (looks very promising)

Future Schedule



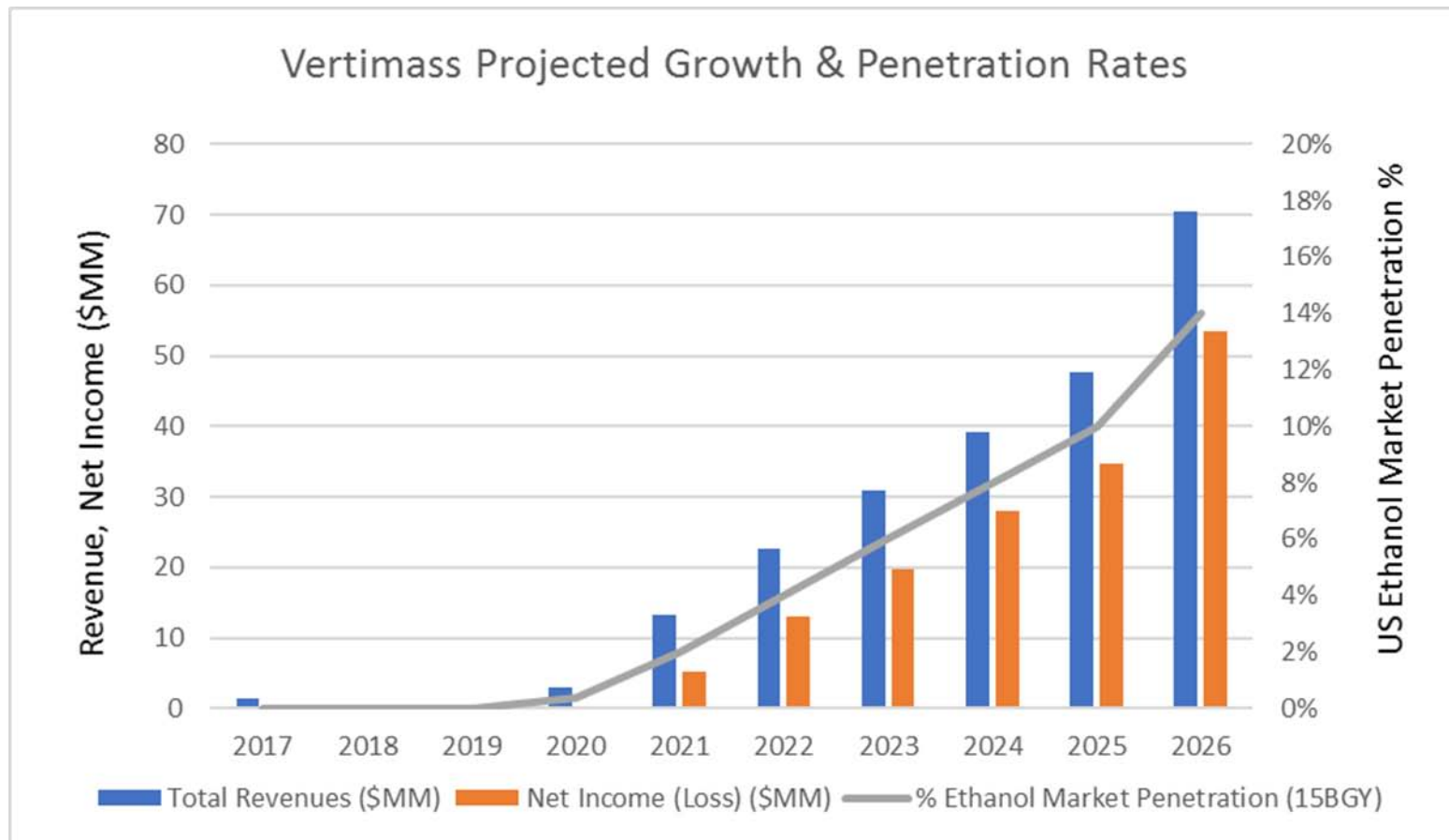
Investment Type Desired

- Series A Completed 2016 (\$2.5MM founders, \$2.0 DOE award)
- Raising Series B funds (\$8.0MM) for engineering design, fuel qualification, continued optimization

Feature	Structure
Total Offering	\$8MM, 25% Ownership
Minimum Investment	\$100,000, 0.3125% Ownership
Distribution of Profits to Investors <i>(Investors receive pref. and profits before founders receive any returns)</i>	1 st - 8% Preferred Return, Cumulative 2 nd - 100% of Invested Capital 3 rd - Pro-Rata Profit Sharing
Return of Capital + Pref. Ret.	6 Years - Estimated
Total Projected Return	Equity Multiple 20X over 8 years
Internal Rate of Return	55% IRR over 8 years
Valuation Potential	\$1 Billion, based on 2% US Market Penetration

Why Invest ?

- 20x Multiple over 8 year time frame
- Bolt-on Adoption Rate drives returns



Opportunity

- Green catalyst could revolutionize liquid fuels industry
- Worldwide exclusive license from Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- Protected by 5 ORNL patents with 4 more Vertimass patent applications
- Competitive advantages for up to 200 billion gallon market
- Engaging large fuel and coproduct producers and consumers
- Pilot operations at TechnipFMC to build engineering design basis and qualify blend stocks, BTEX
- Series B investment highlights:
 - 25% Interest in Vertimass
 - 100% capital return + 8% preferred return by year 6 projected
 - 20X multiple; 55% IRR projected over 8 years

Additional Slides

Patents & Presentations

● Patents (applications) through this work

- 1) US20160362612A1: “Systems and methods for reducing energy consumption in production of ethanol fuel by conversion to hydrocarbon fuels”
- 2) US 20160362612 A1: “Systems and methods for reducing water consumption in production of ethanol fuel by conversion to hydrocarbon fuels”
- 3) 62/315889: “Systems and methods for improving yields of high molecular weight hydrocarbons from alcohols”
- 4) 62/255022: “Systems and methods for improving yields of hydrocarbon fuels from alcohols”

● Presentations (samples)

- 1) "Revolutionary Ethanol Conversion through “Green” Catalyst Technology" Venture West Summit, Feb 28 - March 1, 2017
- 2) “Novel Vertimass Catalyst for Conversion of Ethanol into Renewable Jet Fuel and High Value Co-Products” Lux Executive Summit Americas, May 9-11 2016
- 3) “Single Step Ethanol Conversion to BTEX and Jet, Diesel, and Gasoline Blending Components” International Fuel Ethanol Workshop & Expo 2016

Vertimass Licensed Patents from UT-Battelle

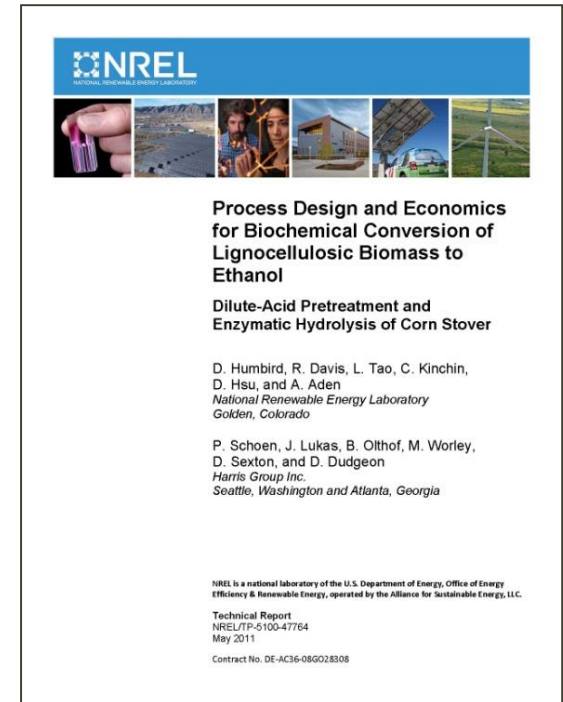
Patent #	Patent Name	Issued Patent # / Application #
1	Zeolite-based SCR catalysts and their use in diesel engine emission treatment	US 8987161 B2
2	Hydrothermally stable, low temperature NOx reduction NH3-SCR catalyst	US 8987162 B2
3	Zeolitic catalytic conversion of alcohols to hydrocarbons	US 9533921 B2
4	Catalytic conversion of alcohols having at least 3 carbon atoms to hydrocarbon blendstock	US 9181493 B2
5	Catalytic conversion of alcohols to hydrocarbons with low benzene content	US 9434658 B2, US 9278892 B2

TechnoEconomic Base Model



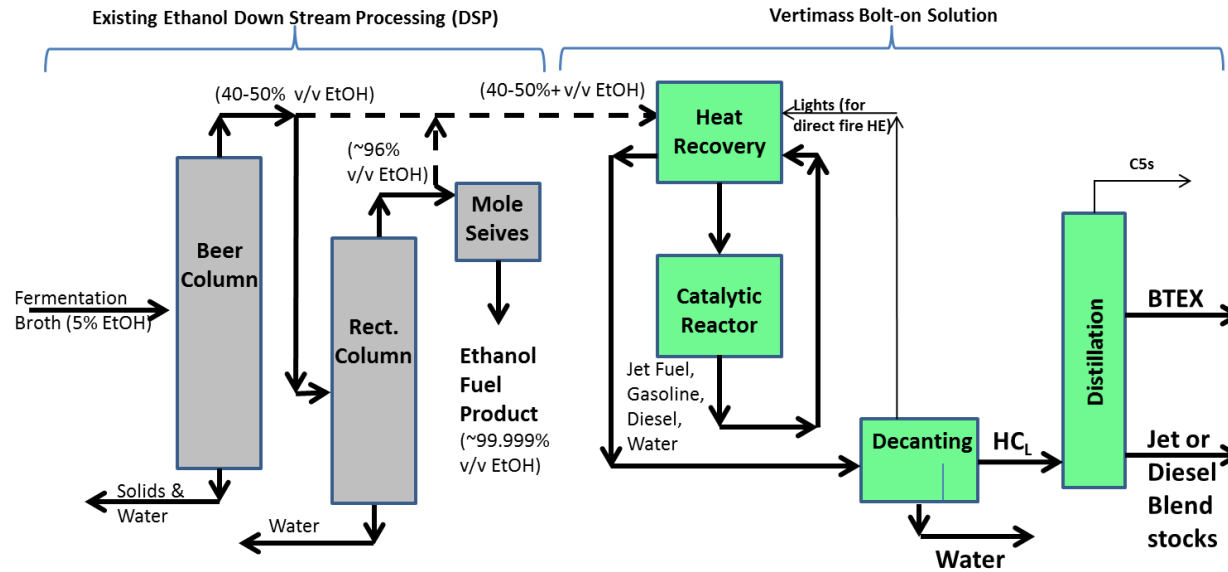
- Economics based on NREL research for biomass to ethanol steps (2011 Biochemical Design Report Update), ORNL research for ethanol to hydrocarbon step
- Assumes n^{th} -plant project cost factors and financing (ignores first-of-a-kind risks)
- Discounted cash-flow ROR calculation includes 10% IRR, interest, and income taxes
- Determines the plant-gate or minimum product selling price
- Baseline ethanol selling price is \$2.15/gal ethanol (2007\$) or \$3.27/gal gasoline eq.
- Modeled conversions are based on anticipated pilot-scale performance in 2015

2011 Design Report Update



<http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy11osti/47764.pdf>

TechnoEconomic Vertimass Model



- Excel based model
- Assumes product taken of rectification column to feed Vertimass bolt-on
- Includes heat integration of Vertifuel products into ethanol facility
- Capital costs for Vertimass bolt-on estimated
- Operating Costs (added to ethanol production costs) include catalyst costs, energy usage, insurance, taxes, maintenance, and labor.