

AUTOMOTIVE

Bentley switches to waste-based renewable fuels in another step toward sustainability

December 10, 2020



Bentley employee pumps biofuel. Image courtesy of Bentley Motors

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

British auto manufacturer Bentley Motors is becoming the first luxury auto company to run its in-house logistics on 100 percent renewable fuel.



Ensuring that environmental factors are at the center of current and future supply chain design is core to the company's vision of sustainability. Following the installation of hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) fueling facilities in Crewe, Bentley takes another step closer to its goal of becoming the most sustainable luxury automotive manufacturer.

"We are designing and implementing a strategic roadmap that aims to deliver a positive impact through our ethos of avoiding, reducing and compensating emission from our site and taking a circular economy approach," said Peter Bosch, member of the board for manufacturing at Bentley, in a statement. "Switching our in-house logistics to 100 percent renewable fuels is a great example of this approach in practice."

Road to a cleaner future

A 34,000 liter "Green D+" HVO tank and pump now fuels the ten heavy goods vehicles that transfer parts between the company's Crewe facility and storage depot in Winsford, as well as over 20 smaller on-site security vehicles and delivery vans. The 250 forklift trucks and tow motors used inside the factory are already charged with green electricity generated by Bentley's 30,000 on-site solar panels.

HVO fuel is a second-generation premium biofuel made from renewable and sustainable sources such as waste fats, vegetables and oils. Compared to traditional fuel, the switch to HVO will reduce tailpipe CO2 emissions from logistics vehicles by over 86 percent as well as reducing nitrous oxide by up to 30 percent.



HVO tank and pump now fuel ten HGV in-house trucks. Image courtesy of Bentley Motors

Green D+ can be used in Bentley's existing vehicles without any additional modifications, maintenance or changes to operating procedure allowing for a quick and effective way to reduce emissions from the existing fleet and improve air quality around the facility.

The company estimates that its local vehicle movements will now utilize nearly 10,000 liters of biofuel per month. With CO2 emissions reduced by over 86 percent, over 250,000 of the 300,000 miles clocked by in-house vehicles every year are now effectively emissions free.

Last month, Bentley released its Beyond100 strategy which outlined how the company will continue to invest in environmentally-friendly efforts. These plans included a push towards climate positive operations and full electrification (see story).

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