

# Issues Affecting XTL Projects

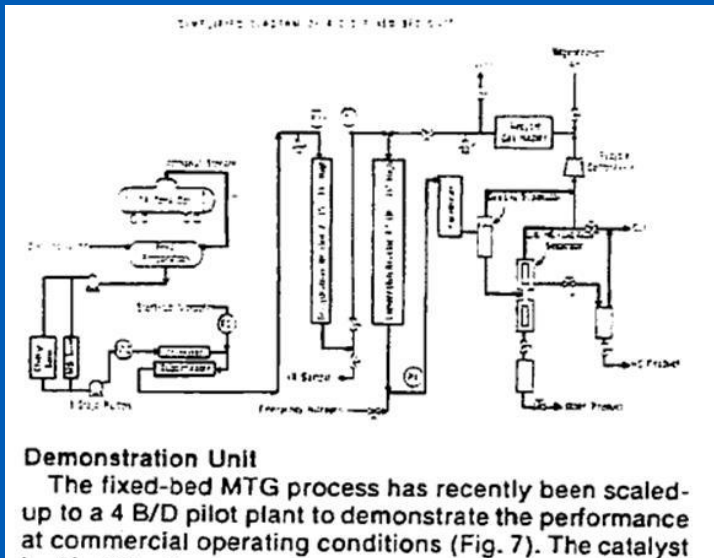
**Dr. Ronald Sills**  
**Director, XTL & DME Institute<sup>SM</sup>**

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**Zeus Development Corp.**  
**North American Gas Seminar**  
**Houston, March 6, 2012**

# A Story: My GTL experience....

In 1979, I joined the team at Mobil developing the Methanol-to-Gasoline technology.



Section 15  
STATUS OF THE MOBIL METHANOL-TO-GASOLINE PROCESS

by  
A. Y. Kam  
R. M. Gould  
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J. C. Zahner  
Mobil Research and Development Corporation

# A Story: My GTL experience.... (cont'd)

The MTG process was commercialized in New Zealand

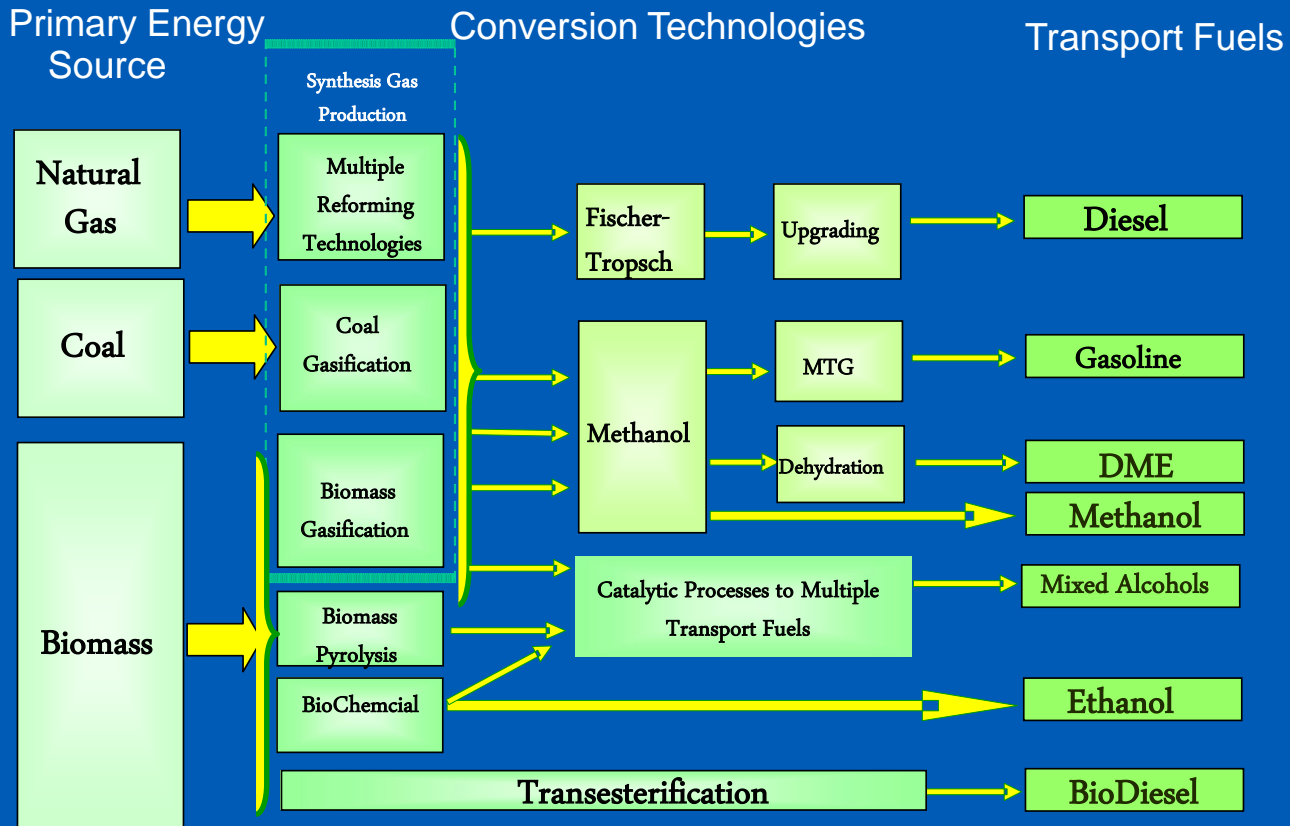


New Zealand Gas to Gasoline Plant: 1985 Start-up

# Outline

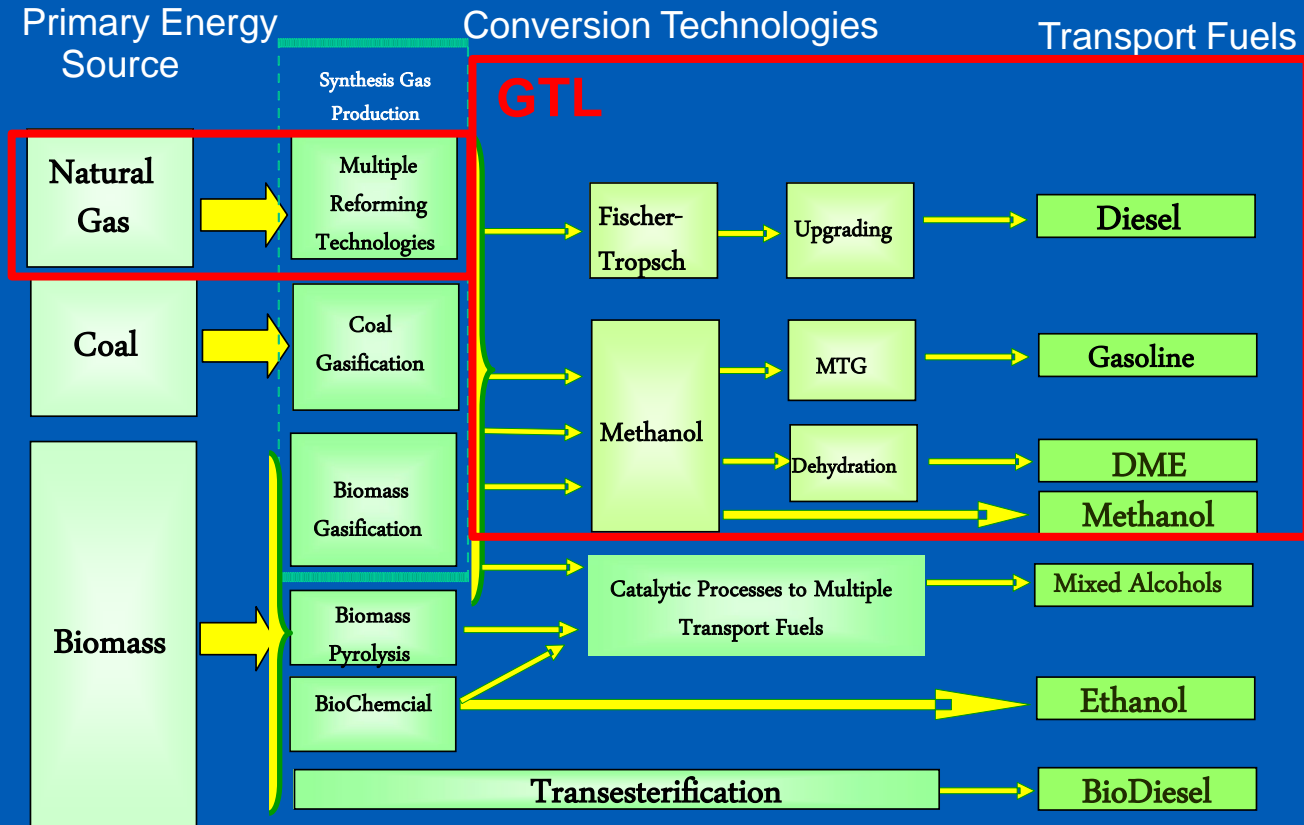
- My Story
- What is XTL
- Key Issues for XTL Projects: Scorecard for Success
  - New Zealand Gas-to-Gasoline: MTG (ExxonMobil)
  - Qatar GTL Projects: Oryx (Sasol) and Pearl (Shell)
  - Generic GTL Project X in North America
- Prospects for DME in North America
- Key Message
- Q&A

# What is XTL\*



•Other transport fuels include oxygenate additives (e.g. MTBE), CNG, electricity and hydrogen; direct coal liquefaction is another coal conversion route ; F-T route can also produce gasoline; oil shale is another alternative energy source

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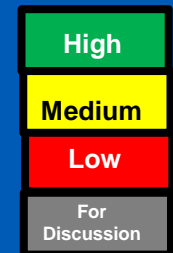
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# Scorecard for XTL Projects\*

New Zealand Gas to Gasoline Plant - 1985

Project Issues	New Zealand Gas to Gasoline Plant (ExxonMobil)
Feedstock Cost and Availability	High
Conversion Technology	High
Market for XTL Product(s)	High
Government Policy, Regulations, and Environmental	High
Commitment of Project Owner/Technology Provider(s)	High
Comparison vs other gas monetization options	High
Economics/ Financing	For Discussion

Degree of Support for Project Success\*



\* Success defined in terms of project execution from concept to start-up and at least 1<sup>st</sup> year operation

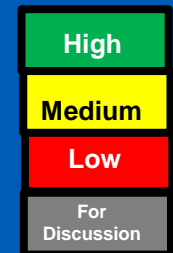


# Scorecard for XTL Projects

Qatar Oryx and Pearl GTL Plants - 2007 to present

Project Issues	New Zealand Gas to Gasoline Plant (ExxonMobil)	Qatar Oryx GTL Project (Sasol)	Qatar Pearl GTL Project* (Shell)
Feedstock Cost and Availability	Medium	High	High
Conversion Technology	Medium	Medium	High
Market for XTL Product(s)	Medium	High	High
Government Policy, Regulations, and Environmental	Medium	High	High
Commitment of Project Owner/Technology Provider(s)	Medium	High	High
Comparison vs other gas monetization options	Medium	High	High
Economics/Financing	Medium	For Discussion	For Discussion

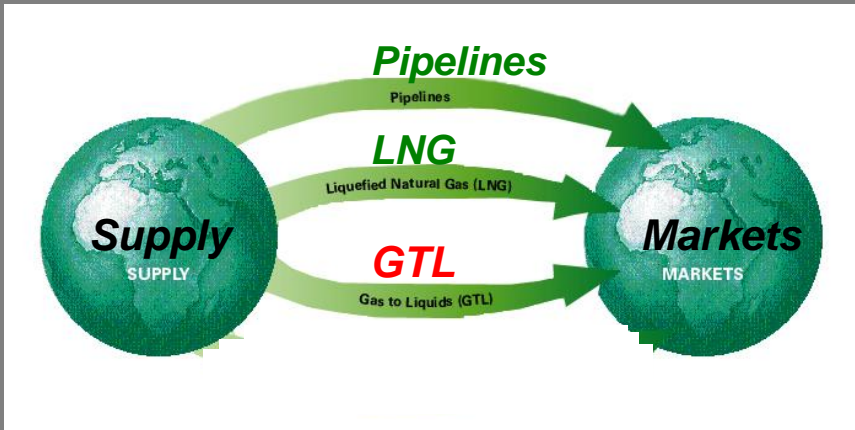
Degree of Support for Project Success



\* In process of increasing production to design capacity

# Traditional Roles for GTL

## 1. Moving Gas to Markets



## 3. Gas Access

GTL, creating new markets for gas, can give access to stranded gas resources

## 2. Grow Existing Markets and Creation of New Markets



- *Power Generation*
- *Transportation*
- *Chemicals*
- *Fuel Additives*
- *Syn-LPG*

Source: BP presentations in early 2000s

# Roles for GTL in North America

## 1. Moving Gas to Markets

Options:

- Pipelines
- LNG (export)
- GTL



## 3. Other

- Eliminate flaring

## 2. Grow Existing Markets and Creation of New Markets



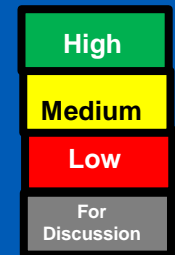
- *Transportation Fuels*
- *Chemicals*
- *Fuel Additives*

# Scorecard for XTL Projects

Generic GTL Project in North America - present

Project Issues	New Zealand Gas to Gasoline Plant (ExxonMobil)	Qatar Oryx GTL Project (Sasol)	Qatar Pearl GTL Project (Shell)	Generic GTL Project X in North America
Feedstock Cost and Availability	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
Conversion Technology	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
Market for XTL Product(s)	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
Government Policy, Regulations, and Environmental	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low
Commitment of Project Owner/Technology Provider(s)	Medium	Medium	Medium	For Discussion
Comparison vs other gas monetization options	Medium	Medium	Medium	For Discussion
Economics/Financing	Medium	Medium	Medium	For Discussion

Degree of Support for Project Success



# Outline

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# What are the prospects for DME in North America

- Of the 3 key global markets for DME, the most likely in N.A. is as a diesel alternative
- Transportation fuel alternative market is challenging with significant competition
- Government support is currently a work in progress.
- Vehicles for DME (neat) demonstration are not available in N.A. today.
- In the future, demo vehicles can come from abroad; for example, Volvo HD trucks.
- Early-stage efforts in North America are:
  - Oberon Fuels (USA)
  - GV Energy (Canada)
  - International DME Association's North American Affairs Committee

# About the BioDME project in Sweden

## BioDME consortium

**CHEMREC**

**DELPHI**

**ETC**

**HALDOR TOPSØE**   
CATALYSING YOUR BUSINESS



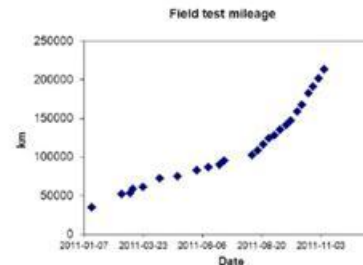
**VOLVO**

- Chemrec and Haldor Topsøe develop and build the DME plant in Piteå
- Volvo Trucks develops and builds DME trucks and a fuel injection system together with Delphi
- ETC, the Energy Technology Centre in Piteå, contributes its technical expertise
- Preem is responsible for Bio-DME distribution and builds fuel stations in Sweden
- Total is responsible for fuel and lubricant specifications
- The project is financed by the participants, the EU and the Swedish Energy Agency



## Field test status 2011-11-07

- Trucks at customer: 9
- Mileage last week: 11 643 km
- Average last 5 weeks: 10 778 km
- Accumulated mileage: 213 069 km



# What are the prospects for DME in North America

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# Key Message

Successful *integrated* GTL projects in North American will likely have high scores for each issue;

- Feedstock availability and cost
- Conversion technology
- Market for products
- Government support including environmental issues
- Commitment of project owner(s) and technology provider(s)
- Comparison vs other alternatives
- Economics and financing

# Questions

# About the presenter

Dr. Ronald (Ron) Sills is an Alternative Energy Consultant in conversion technologies and analyses of the natural gas/coal/biomass to products value chain. He is Co-Director of the XTL & DME (Dimethyl ether) Institute, an educational service, and is a member of the Technical Advisory Board for CoolPlanet Energy Systems, Inc ([www.CoolPlanetBiofuels.com](http://www.CoolPlanetBiofuels.com)). Ron is President, Ronald A. Sills, LLC.

He is recognized internationally as an alternative energy expert, particularly in the area of hydrocarbon conversion to fuels. Ron is an honorary member of the International DME Association. In 2010, he was the GTL Peer Reviewer for the IEA World Energy Outlook. Before his retirement from BP in 2009, he was Gas Conversion Network Leader and Engineering Manager in the Conversion Technology Centre. Prior to joining BP in the 1990s, he was manager of Mobil's Research Planning Group as well as a member of the team for the development and commercialization of the fixed-bed Methanol-to-Gasoline (MTG) process.

Dr. Sills holds a PhD and M.S. in Chemical Engineering from M.I.T and a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Columbia University.

# About the XTL & DME Institute<sup>SM</sup>

Newly-created educational service (2010) provided by Dr. Theo Fleisch (Fuel Conversion Solutions, LP) and Dr. Ronald Sills (Ronald A. Sills, LLC), Co-Directors, on all aspects of the XTL supply chain, including DME as a fuel and chemical feedstock. [www.XTLinstitute.com](http://www.XTLinstitute.com)



DME Fundamentals Tutorial at  
DME4 in Stockholm,  
September, 2010



XTL Tutorial at Future Fuels for  
Australia Conference in  
Brisbane, July, 2011

Next DME Fundamentals Tutorial at DME 5 in Beijing, September 2012  
[www.aboutDME.org](http://www.aboutDME.org)

# Acknowledgments and Disclaimer

## *Acknowledgments*

The lecturers gratefully acknowledges the significant information provided by others used in this presentation.

## *Disclaimer*

The lecturers have prepared this presentation utilizing reasonable care and skill in applying methods of analysis consistent with normal industry practice.

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