

NEWS

From GEORGIA TECH'S ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION

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TECH TO HELP INDUSTRY

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IN WOOD CONVERSION STUDY

For Immediate Release

ATLANTA, GA....Georgia Tech will help American Cyanamid Co. study alternative fuel sources for the firm's large Savannah, Ga., industrial plant.

The Department of Energy has given the company \$150,000 to determine if wood pyrolysis and gasification equipment can adequately replace the Savannah plant's current fossil fuel system.

The grant was one of 110 projects funded by DOE in the first round of the government's new synfuels development program.

American Cyanamid's Savannah plant employs 650 workers. It produces Titanium Dioxide used primarily in paint pigments as well as sulfuric acid produced for sale to other chemical plants.

Gasification and pyrolysis systems make gaseous or liquid fuels from wood. Researchers from the Wood Energy Branch of Georgia Tech's Engineering Experiment Station will support American Cyanamid in its study. Tech has pioneered development of gasification and pyrolysis as alternative energy systems for industry.

The DOE feasibility study will identify and assess gasifiers and pyrolysis equipment now commercially available. The study also will provide detailed analysis of wood resources in the area near the Savannah Cyanamid plant. From these findings will come a multiphase plan and design for conversion of the Cyanamid plant to wood fuels.

The company's application for funding was one of 975 made to DOE for research in synthetic fuels. Less than 100 of the applications involved

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non-gasohol biomass applications.

The government's new synfuels program is designed to ease U.S. dependence on foreign oil imports.

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