

## FertigHy, a new player in low-carbon fertiliser production, launched to accelerate decarbonisation of food value chain

- Consortium of founding investors includes EIT InnoEnergy, RIC Energy, MAIRE, Siemens Financial Services, InVivo and HEINEKEN.
- FertigHy plans to integrate green hydrogen to decarbonise agricultural fertiliser.
- First plant to be built in Spain, producing one million metric tonnes of nitrogen-based fertilisers per year, construction planned to start in 2025.

**28<sup>th</sup> June, 2023:** FertigHy, a company founded by EIT InnoEnergy, RIC Energy, MAIRE, Siemens Financial Services, InVivo and HEINEKEN, launches today to pioneer the low-carbon transition of the European fertiliser industry. FertigHy aims to produce affordable and low-carbon fertilisers for European farmers, answering directly to the recent challenges of the EU and global food security due to supply chain disruption and global uncertainties in natural gas supply.

FertigHy, which plans to build and operate several large-scale low-carbon fertiliser projects, will build, own and operate its first plant in Spain and replicate it in other European countries. The plant will produce more than one million metric tonnes per year of low-carbon nitrogen-based fertilisers from 100% renewable electricity and green hydrogen, with construction planned to start in 2025. José Antonio de las Heras will be leading FertigHy and brings more than 25 years of c-level executive and non-executive corporate and venturing experience, many of them in the fields of green hydrogen, renewables and natural gas.

The agriculture sector alone is responsible for 13% of the EU's total greenhouse gas emissions\*, and European farmers are applying over 11 million tonnes of nitrogen fertilisers each year (on nutrient basis). In its "Communication on Ensuring Availability and Affordability of Fertilisers" from October 2022, the European Commission has identified the fertiliser sector as critically important and supports the transition to low-carbon fertilisers. FertigHy is an example of European industrial players deciding to invest in Europe for the continuous decarbonisation of the economy, in this case fertilizers. The initial response of the European Commission to the US IRA has been relevant for the decision to set up operations in Europe as FertigHy answers directly to the challenges the EU is facing and aims to become a European leader in the low-carbon fertiliser industry. FertigHy will work to expand its operations across Europe with an objective to reduce emissions by up to two million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per plant and per year.

José Antonio de las Heras, CEO of FertigHy, said, "There has never been greater urgency to decarbonise and collectively regain our production of fertiliser. With a plethora of factors at play in Europe in 2023 the time to establish a greener and self-sufficient industry for all is now. FertigHy will rebuild resilience against disrupted supply chains, while promoting sovereignty for the agriculture industry and security of supply by accelerating the decarbonisation of the food value chain."

\*[https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/env\\_ac\\_aigg\\_q/default/table?lang=en](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/env_ac_aigg_q/default/table?lang=en)

Founded by a global consortium, FertigHy has a cross-value chain combination of initial investors. EIT InnoEnergy, the innovation engine for sustainable energy supported by the European Institute of Innovation & Technology, a body of the European Union (EU) is the originator of the new low-carbon fertiliser company and will provide business acceleration services with its European Green Hydrogen Acceleration Center (EGHAC) due to its track record in setting up new industrial companies. RIC Energy, the leading renewable energy developer, will bring its core knowledge in the photovoltaic (PV) and electricity markets. MAIRE will provide its unique experience in project development, as provider of technology and EPC contractor of ammonia and fertiliser plants. Siemens Financial Services, which became a shareholder of EIT InnoEnergy in late 2021, joins the consortium to bring its experience in financing large-scale industrial projects focused on sustainability and facilitate the alignment with the entire Siemens ecosystem, with solutions ranging from factory digitalisation and automation to electrification solutions. InViVo, will support as a purchaser and distributor of fertilisers to 300,000 farmers which represents over 200 cooperatives. Finally, HEINEKEN, the number one brewer in Europe, has set a goal to operate in a net zero value chain by 2040. It will stimulate the demand for low-carbon fertilisers to reduce the carbon footprint of barley and other crops. HEINEKEN is exploring various solutions to decarbonise at scale, and this is one of its many sustainable agriculture initiatives it will pilot.

Jacob Ruiter, Managing Director of EGHAC commented “FertigHy’s ambitions are fully in line with the EU’s Fit-for-55 Package or the recent REPowerEU and Green Deal Industrial Plan and demonstrates our ability to enable Europe's net-zero industry competitiveness. This investment is also a further signal of EIT InnoEnergy’s commitment to hard-to-abate industries and a marker of our continued success with EGHAC.”

**Ends.**



## About FertigHy

Launched in 2023, FertigHy is a pioneer in low-carbon fertiliser production, with its first plant to be located in Spain, and expansion plans across Europe. FertigHy was founded to address the decarbonisation of the fertiliser industry and support the food sector in its transition to decarbonise.

By integrating green hydrogen into the fertiliser production process, its proprietary solution will act to reduce emissions and boost food sovereignty amidst disrupted supply chains.

The company's shareholders are EIT InnoEnergy, RIC Energy, MAIRE, Siemens Financial Services, InVivo and HEINEKEN.

## About EIT InnoEnergy

[EIT InnoEnergy](#) operates at the centre of the energy transition and is the leading innovation engine in sustainable energy, bringing the technology and skills required to accelerate the Green Deal, progress towards Europe's decarbonisation goal, and improve energy security.

EIT InnoEnergy is the driving force behind three strategic European initiatives which include the [European Battery Alliance](#) (EBA), [the European Green Hydrogen Acceleration Center](#) (EGHAC) and the [European Solar Photovoltaic Industry Alliance](#).

EIT InnoEnergy was established in 2010 and is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology ([EIT](#)), an independent EU body set up in 2008 to drive innovation and entrepreneurship across Europe. [www.innoenergy.com](http://www.innoenergy.com)

## About The European Green Hydrogen Acceleration Center

The European Green Hydrogen Acceleration Center (EGHAC) is founded and run by EIT InnoEnergy. Our ambition is to decarbonize hard to abate industrial value chains.

EGHAC creates industrial players and helps them to de-risk and accelerate their green hydrogen, ammonia, methanol and aviation fuel projects. This is done through early stage investment and acceleration services which are delivered in collaboration with a large ecosystem. [www.eghac.com](http://www.eghac.com)

## About Siemens Financial Services (SFS)



Siemens Financial Services (SFS) – the B2B financing arm of Siemens – provides financing that makes a difference. At SFS, we empower customers around the globe to access technology with purpose and increase their competitiveness. Based on our unique combination of financial expertise, risk management and industry know-how we provide tailored financing solutions – including flexible leasing and working capital products, project-related and structured financing, corporate lending, equity investments, finance advisory, as well as trade and receivables financing. With highly experienced and passionate teams in 20+ countries, SFS paves the way for industrial productivity, smart infrastructure and sustainable mobility, facilitating the energy transition and enabling high-quality healthcare. Supporting the Siemens DEGREE framework, SFS is one of the leading providers in financing greenfield renewable projects. [www.siemens.com/finance](http://www.siemens.com/finance)

### About RIC Energy

RIC Energy is a pioneer in the development of photovoltaic energies in Spain with a presence on four continents and a firm commitment to innovation in new technologies such as green hydrogen production, storage, and biogas energy generation with completed projects for more than 4,000 MW and a development portfolio of more than 19,000 MW.

We are leading photovoltaic developer at the national level, and we have a presence in India, United States, Italy and some countries of Africa.

In the field of green hydrogen and its derivatives, we have a pipeline of over 10 projects in Spain, totalling more than 2,500 MW.

### About MAIRE

**MAIRE S.p.A.** leads a technology and engineering group that develops and implements innovative solutions to enable the Energy Transition. We offer Sustainable Technology Solutions and Integrated E&C Solutions in nitrogen fertilizers, hydrogen, circular carbon, fuels, chemicals, and polymers. MAIRE creates value in 45 countries and relies on 6,500 employees, supported by over 20,000 people engaged in its projects worldwide. MAIRE is listed on the Milan Stock Exchange (ticker “MAIRE”). For further information: [www.mairetecnimont.com](http://www.mairetecnimont.com)

### About InVivo

The InVivo group is one of Europe's leading agricultural groups, with a turnover of almost €12 billion, more than half of which are generated in France, and a workforce of more than 14,500 employees, including 11,000 in France. Established in 38 countries, it has more than 90 industrial sites, including 63 in France.

This key figure in food sovereignty operates along the entire value chain, from farm to fork, as a leader in each of its four major strategic business lines: international grain trade, agriculture, agri-food (Malting, Milling/ingredients/bakery, wine), gardening and food distribution.

A global cross-functional centre for innovative and digital solutions completes the structure to accelerate the transformation of these activities towards the 3rd agricultural revolution.

For more information: [invivo-group.com](http://invivo-group.com) / Twitter @InVivoGroup



## About HEINEKEN

HEINEKEN is the world's most international brewer. It is the leading developer and marketer of premium beer and cider brands. Led by the Heineken® brand, the Group has a portfolio of more than 300 international, regional, local and specialty beers and ciders. HEINEKEN is committed to innovation, long-term brand investment, disciplined sales execution and focused cost management. Through "Brew a Better World", sustainability is embedded in the business.

HEINEKEN has a well-balanced geographic footprint with leadership positions in both developed and developing markets. It employs over 80,000 employees and operates breweries, malteries, cider plants and other production facilities in more than 70 countries. Heineken N.V. and Heineken Holding N.V. shares trade on the Euronext in Amsterdam. Prices for the ordinary shares may be accessed on Bloomberg under the symbols HEIA NA and HEIO NA and on Reuters under HEIN.AS and HEIO.AS. HEINEKEN has two sponsored level 1 American Depositary Receipt (ADR) programmes: Heineken N.V. (OTCQX: HEINY) and Heineken Holding N.V. (OTCQX: HKHHY).

