

11th International Gas Turbine Conference (IGTC)  
10– 11 October, 2023  
Brussels, Belgium

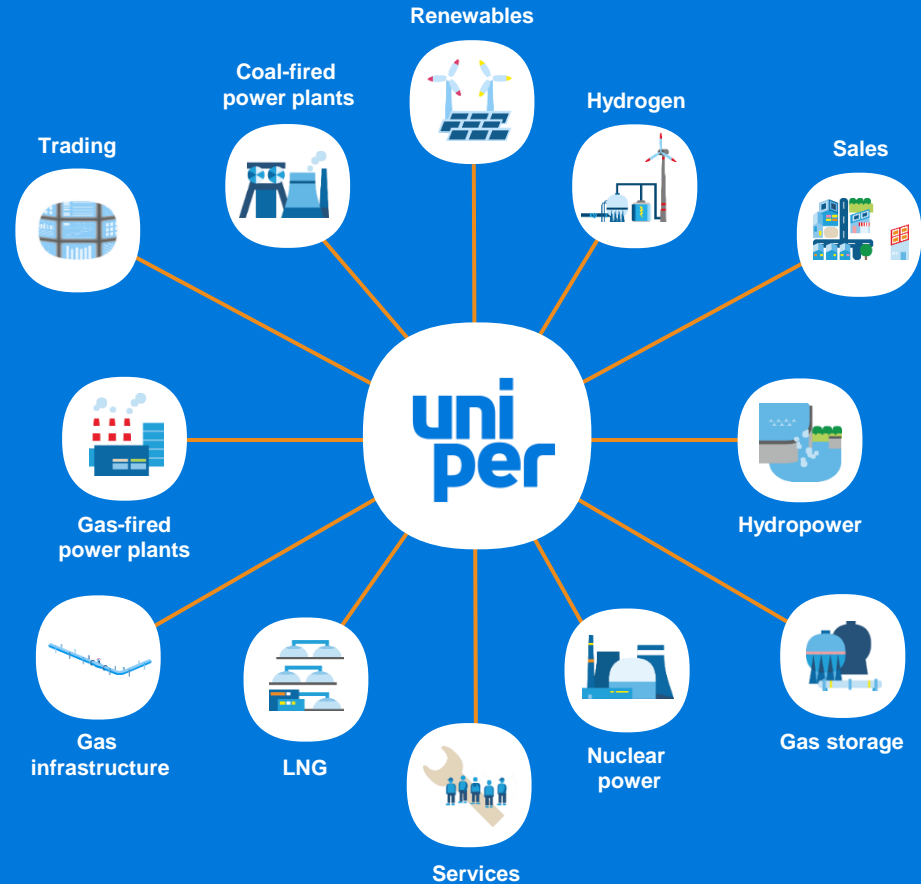


## **Field Demonstrations of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil as Biofuel for Gas Turbine Decarbonisation**

Jon Runyon, Stuart James, David Graham, Catherine Goy, Susan Weatherstone,  
Sander Aukema

# At a glance

- **7,000 employees** ensure security of supply in Europe
- Active in more than **40 countries**
- ~ **22.5 GW** generation capacity
- Entire business to be carbon-neutral by **2040**
- Gas portfolio consisting of roughly **200 TWh**
- **€3.7** Adj. EBIT (HY 2023)





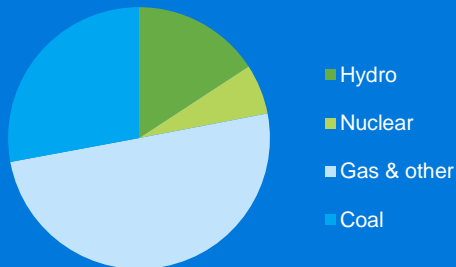
# Green & Flexible Power: Closing the critical gap in the energy transition

## Today

### 22.5 GW

of generating capacity (2022)

### 20% green



## The way ahead

### Grow green power

- Phase out coal by 2029<sup>1</sup>.
- Grow wind and solar assets and renewable PPAs.
- Optimize value of hydro and nuclear.
- Pursue selective growth in hydro.

### Grow flexible power

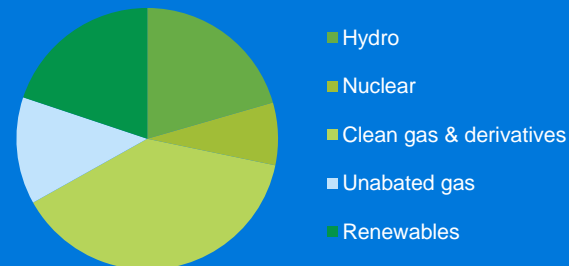
- Decarbonize existing gas plants.
- Invest in new flexible generation with net-zero capability.
- Grow in battery energy storage systems.

## 2030 – Highlights

### 15-20 GW

generation capacity installed

### >80% green



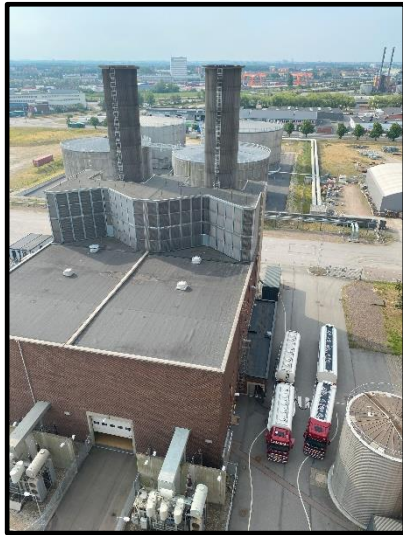
# A look at the world's first GT run on HVO (Malmö)...



In the HVO trial we have conducted on this site,  
we've achieved a 90% carbon dioxide emission reduction.

# Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) Field Demonstrations

V93.0 GT  
(Sweden)



July 2021

V93.1 GT  
(Germany)



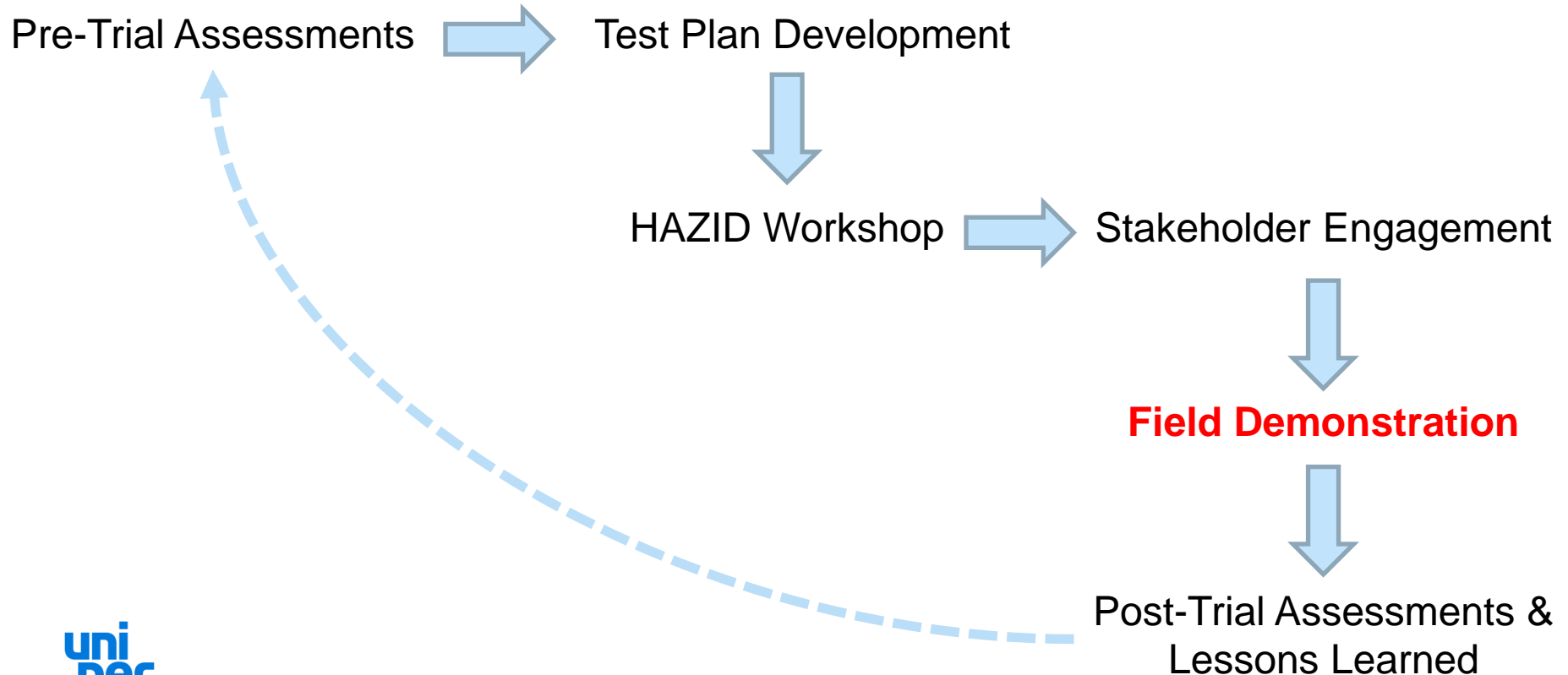
March 2022

Olympus Gas Generator (GG)  
(UK)



August 2022

# Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) Field Demonstrations



# What is Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO)?

- Used as a drop-in replacement for fossil diesel in the transport sector.
- HVO is **not** fatty acid methyl ester (FAME) biodiesel.
- Major European producers: Neste, Eni, Total Energies
- Feedstock: waste oils, animal fats, non-food grade vegetable oils
- Free from aromatics, sulphur, and alkenes (potentially cleaner burn)
- Produced to EN15940 standard
- 80-90% lifecycle CO<sub>2</sub> reduction



Neste Sumoi, <https://youtu.be/P4ACk53nyyw> (2017)

# HVO Properties (GT trial sample analysis, March 2022)

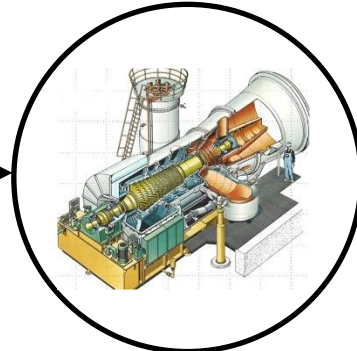
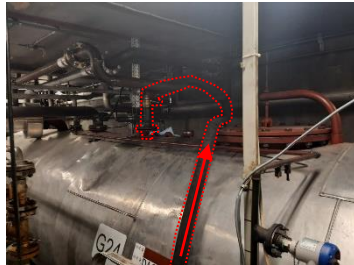
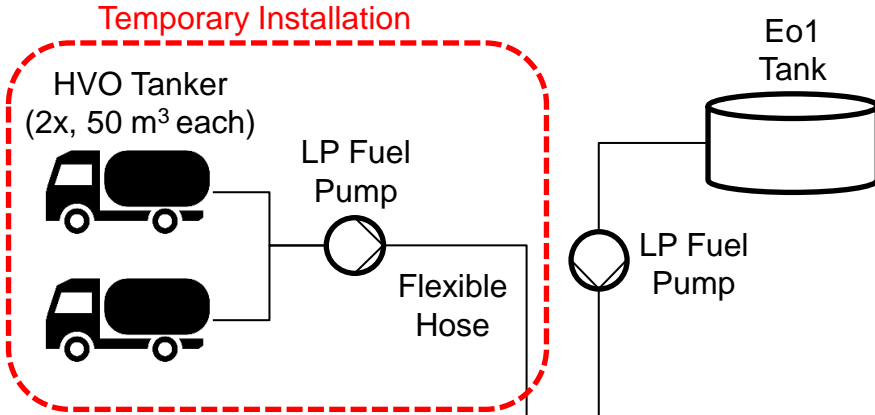
Property	Units	HEL (Light Heating Oil)	HVO
Density (15°C)	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	835.6	780.6
LHV (mass)	MJ/kg	42.9	43.9
<b>LHV (volume)</b>	<b>MJ/litre</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>34.2</b>
Hydrogen	%mass	13.6	15.4
<b>Sulphur</b>	<b>mg/kg</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>&lt; 5</b>
Ash	mg/kg	< 0.001	< 0.001
Aromatics	%vol	---	0.7
Trace Metals	mg/kg	< 0.5	< 0.5
<b>Carbon intensity</b>	<b>gCO<sub>2</sub>/MJ</b>	<b>95.1</b>	<b>4.4</b>



# Öresundsverket (ÖVT) – Malmö, Sweden

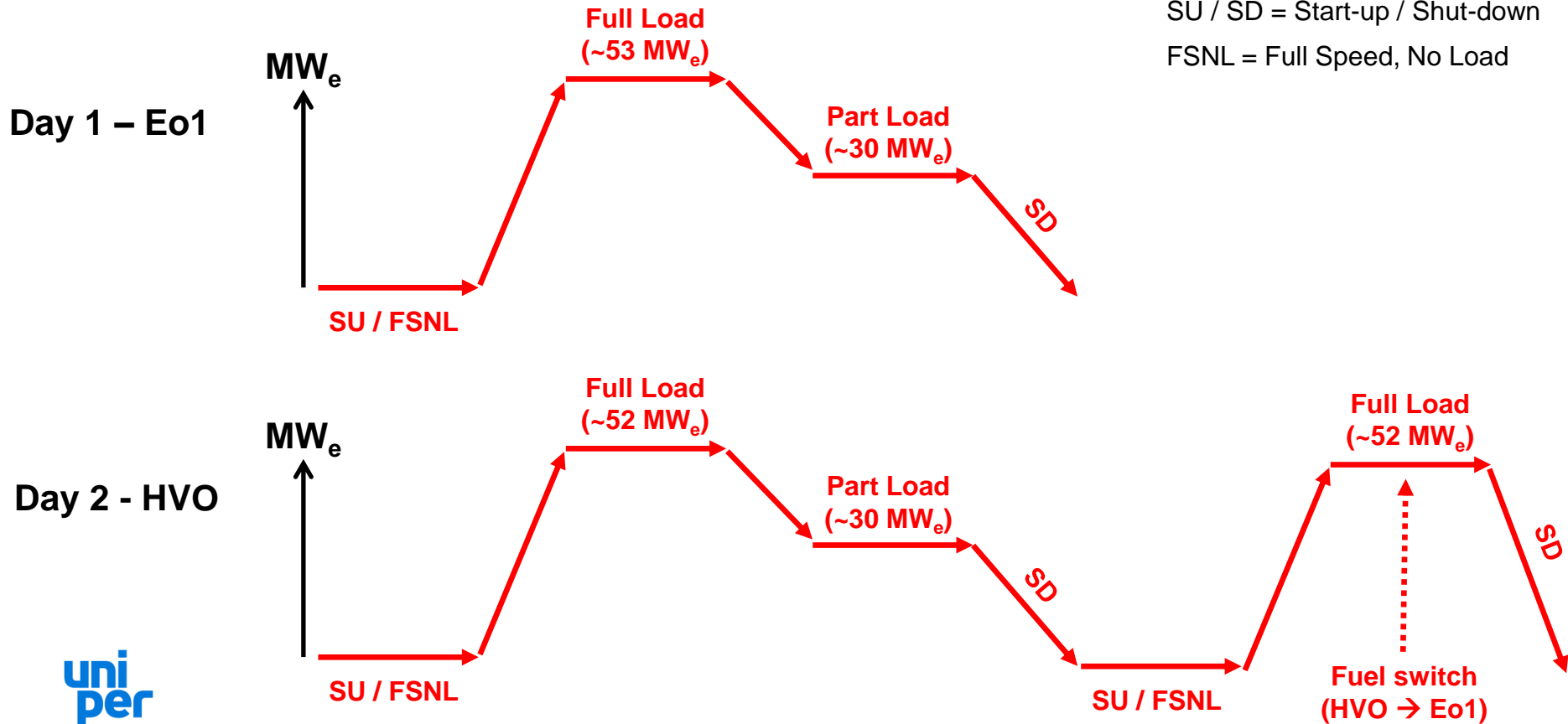
- ÖVT was commissioned in the 1970s.
- KWU/Siemens **V93.0 GT**, open cycle, liquid-fuel only, 63 MW<sub>e</sub> peak output
- Current fuel: Gas oil (“Eo1”)
- Current GT combustion system: 2x down-fired silo combustors, 4x diffusion burners per silo with spill-return pressure atomisers, water injection for NO<sub>x</sub> control
- Two-day trial in June 2021
- Certified HVO lifecycle carbon intensity = 8.3 gCO<sub>2</sub>/MJ
- **World’s first use of HVO in a gas turbine**
- Results presented at 2023 ASME Turbo Expo<sup>1</sup> and accepted for publication in ASME Journal of Engineering for Gas Turbines and Power.

# ÖVT HVO Trial Setup



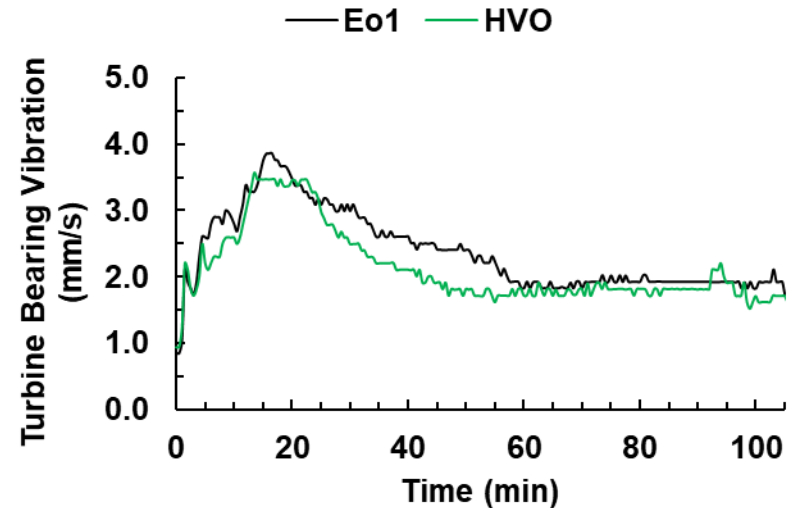
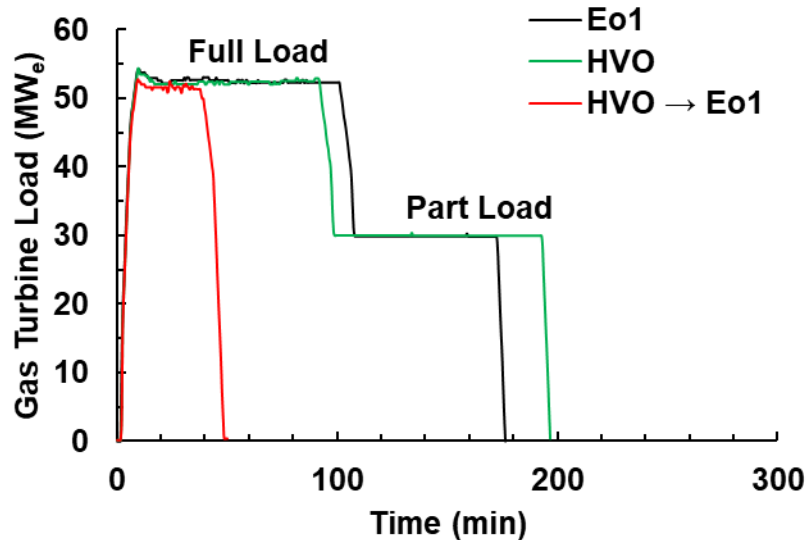
V93.0 GT (~63 MW<sub>e</sub>)

# ÖVT HVO Trial Test Plan (July 2021)



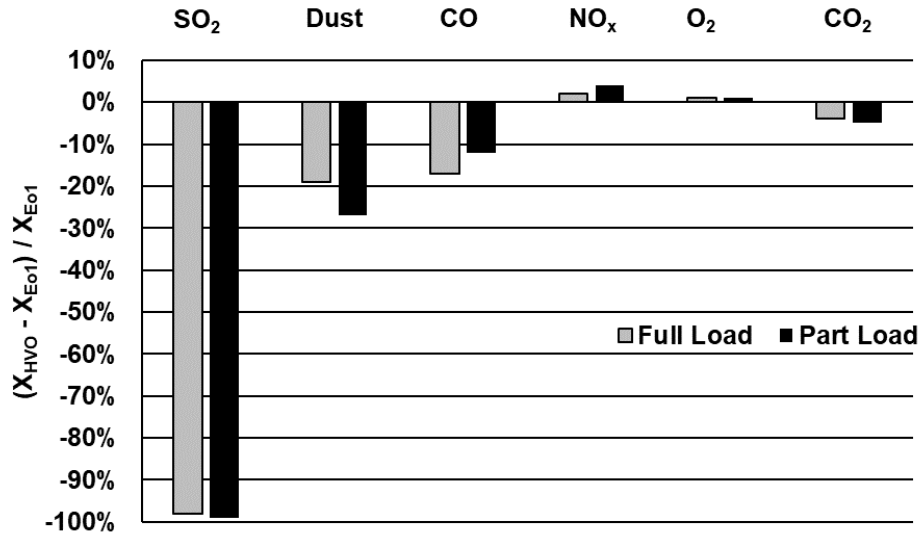
# Results – Performance

- No adverse impacts from HVO operation. **Results obtained without tuning or optimisation.**
- Successful full load fuel transition from HVO → Eo1.
- Transient conditions ( $\pm \text{MW}_e/\text{min}$ ) show comparable control response.
- Slight increase in fuel return control valve position to accommodate increased HVO volumetric flow.
- Nearly identical turbine bearing vibration profiles following start-up.



# Results – Emissions

- SO<sub>2</sub> virtually eliminated with HVO
  - Dust reduced by ~20-25%
  - CO reduced by ~10-15%
  - NO<sub>x</sub> increased by 2-4% (uncertainty ±7%)
  - Stack O<sub>2</sub> virtually unchanged
  - Stack CO<sub>2</sub> reduced by 4-5%
- Low-sulphur content
  - Low ash and aromatic content
  - Higher H:C ratio
  - No change to water injection rate
  - Higher stoichiometric AFR + lower LHV
  - Higher H:C ratio

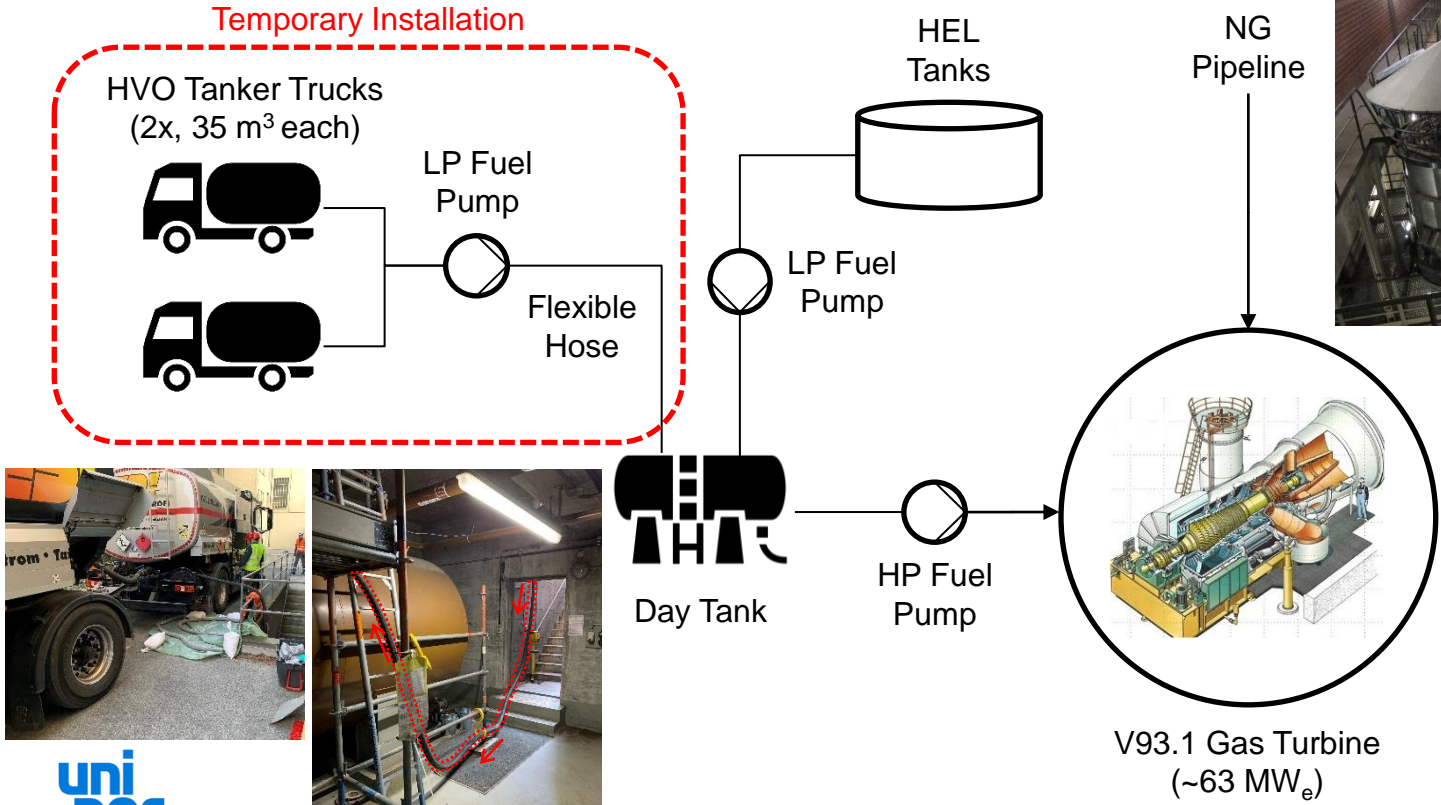


- All permitted emissions below existing gas oil limits.
- Slight increase in exhaust moisture content (higher H:C ratio)

# Franken Power Plant – Nuremberg, Germany

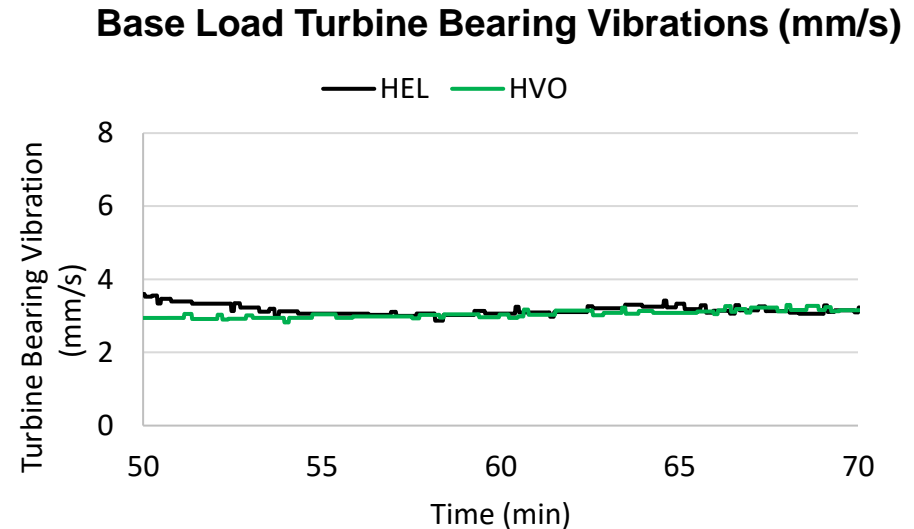
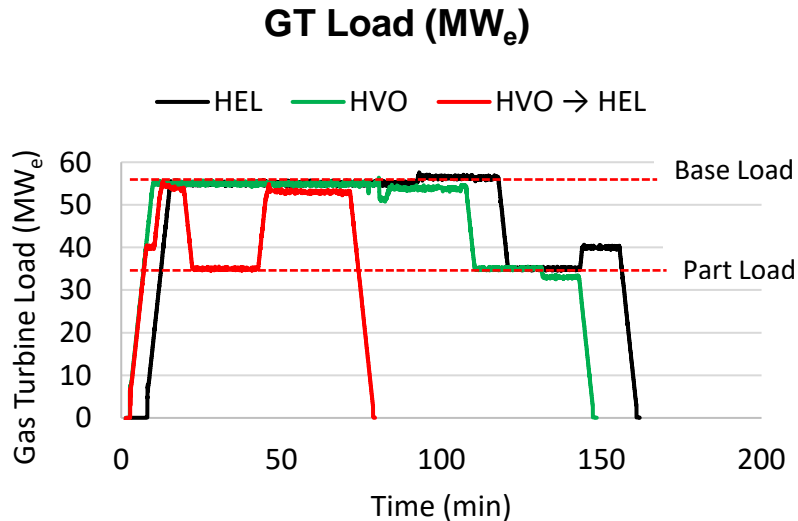
- Franken Power Plant was commissioned in the 1970s.
- KWU/Siemens **V93.1 GT**, dual-fuel, 63 MW<sub>e</sub> peak output
- Current fuels: Natural gas and extra light heating oil (“HEL”)
- Current GT combustion system: 2x down-fired silo combustors, 6x hybrid dual-fuel burners per silo, dry premixed natural gas or wet diffusion liquid heating oil operation
- Two-day HVO trial conducted in March 2022 using the V93.1 in OCGT configuration.
- Certified HVO lifecycle carbon intensity = 4.4 gCO<sub>2</sub>/MJ
- **First use of HVO in a gas turbine in Germany.**

# Franken HVO Trial Setup



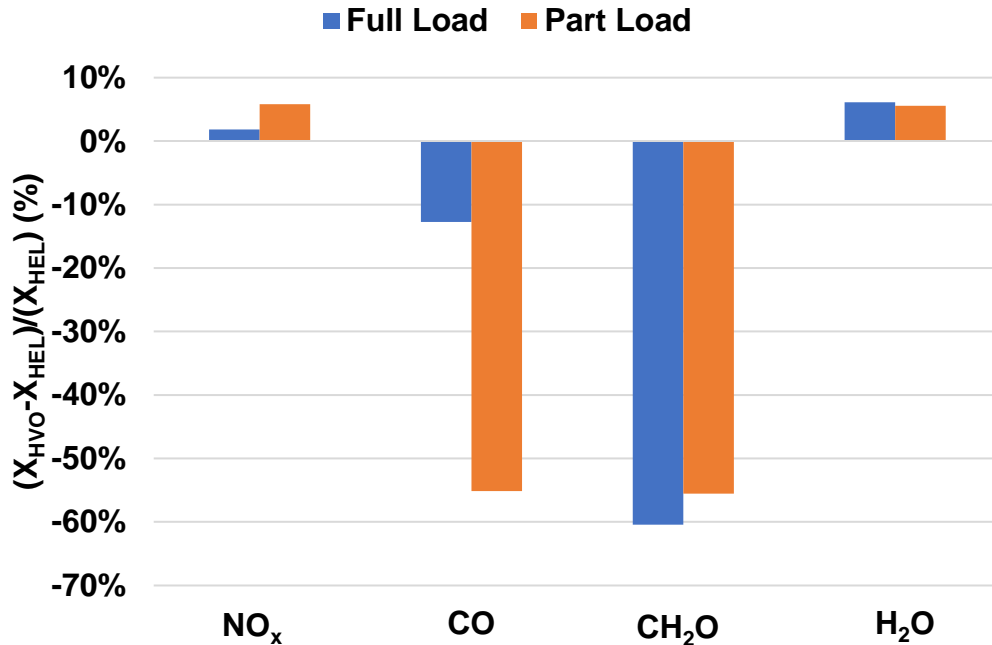
# Franken HVO Gas Turbine Performance Results

- Acceptable start-up, ramp-up, base load, and part load performance during HVO operation.
- No changes made to existing GT control system.
- On-load fuel switch from HVO → HEL.





# Franken HVO Gas Turbine Emissions

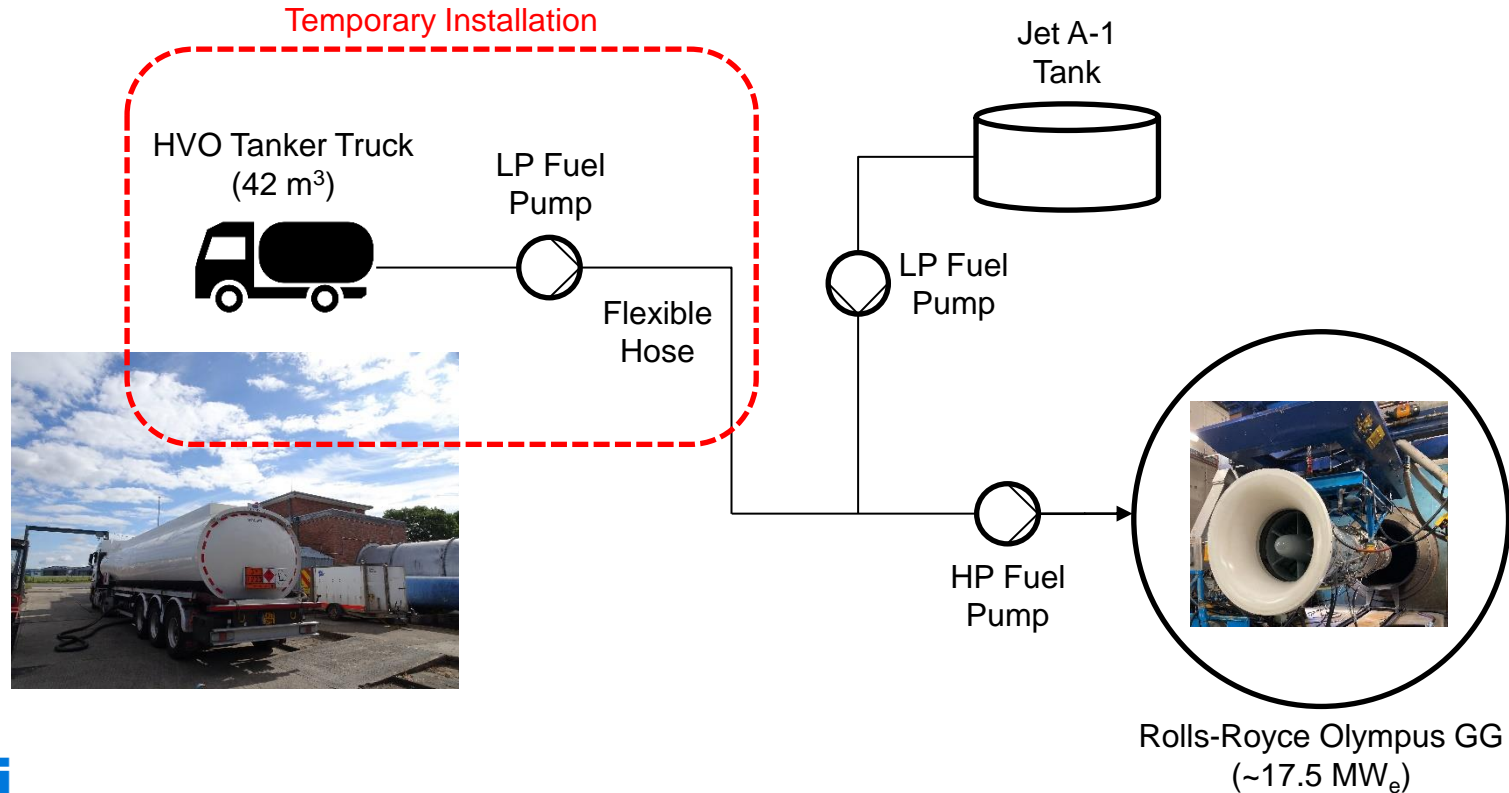


- Reductions in dust, CO, and CH<sub>2</sub>O at base load and part load.
  - Dust reduction attributed to lack of aromatics and low ash content.
  - CO and CH<sub>2</sub>O reduction attributed to higher H:C ratio of fuel.
- NO<sub>x</sub> emissions are effectively equivalent within the measurement uncertainty.

# Taylor's Lane Power Station – London, United Kingdom

- Taylor's Lane OCGTs were commissioned in the 1970s.
- **Rolls-Royce Olympus GG**, liquid fuel, 17.5 MW<sub>e</sub> peak output from power turbine
- Current fuel: Diesel
- Current GT combustion system: Can-annular, 8x cans with one pressure atomiser per can, diffusion, no water injection
- Three-day HVO trial conducted with Alba Power in August 2022 at an off-site, dedicated test cell.
- Jet A-1 used as baseline fuel in test facility.
- **First use of HVO in this application in the UK.**

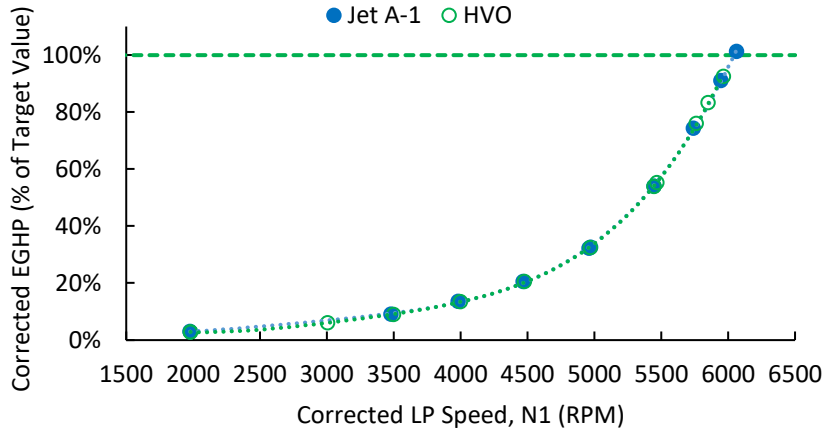
# Olympus HVO Trial Setup – Gloucester Jet Test Centre



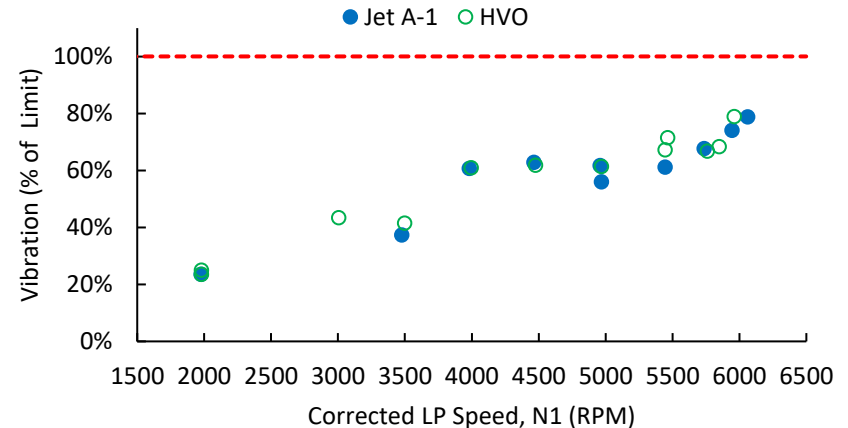
# Results – Gas Generator Performance

- All results obtained without changes to test facility control settings between Jet A-1 and HVO test.
- No adverse impacts at ignition, idle, and ramp up to base/peak load equivalent speeds during HVO operation.
- Exhaust gas horsepower (EGHP) response identical between Jet A-1 and HVO – i.e., similar GG output.
- Acceptable vibration performance (proxy for combustion dynamics). Good exhaust gas temperature spread.

## EGHP (% of OEM post-overhaul target)

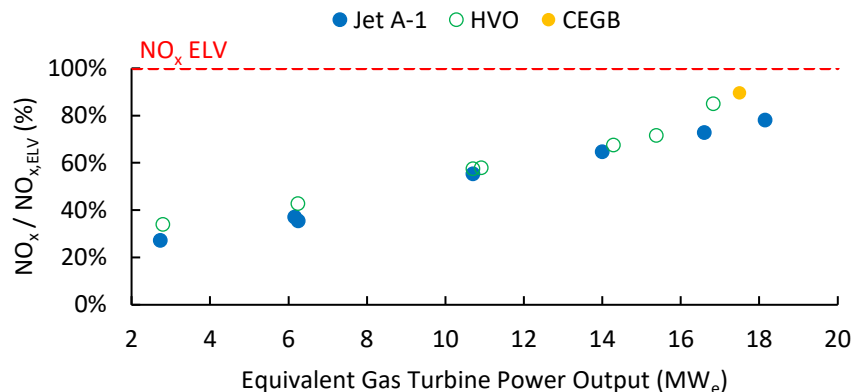


## Vibration (% of OEM limit)



# Olympus HVO Results – Exhaust Gas Emissions

- All permitted emissions expected to be within existing limits with HVO, within measurement uncertainty.
- High measurement uncertainty for HVO trial results due to non-standard sampling location and methodology.
- HVO results *relative to Jet A-1* (expect same relative changes with diesel):
  - Slight  $\text{NO}_x$  increase despite lower flame temperature → Lower ignition delay = longer post-flame residence time
  - CO reduction → Higher H:C ratio
  - $\text{CO}_2$  reduction → Higher H:C ratio
  - $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  increase → Higher H:C ratio
  - $\text{O}_2$  virtually unchanged → Similar stoichiometric air-fuel ratio
  - Expect dust to reduce → Lower ash content and aromatics
  - Expect  $\text{SO}_2$  to be virtually eliminated → Lower sulphur content



- Horiba PG250 multi-gas analyser
- Dry measurements corrected to 15%  $\text{O}_2$
- Not a certified measurement, indicative only
- Similarity to historical diesel peak load  $\text{NO}_x$  measurement by Central Electricity Generating Board (CEGB).

# HVO Demonstration Conclusions

- Uniper has demonstrated the world's first use of HVO in an industrial gas turbine (V93.0), in a gas turbine in Germany (V93.1) and in a gas generator in the UK (Olympus).
- HVO is considered acceptable for use in these gas turbines.
- Gas turbine performance is not expected to be negatively impacted by using HVO.
- No immediate concerns that HVO will negatively impact on emissions compared with fossil gas oil or diesel.
  - Some parameters (e.g., SO<sub>2</sub> and dust) expected to improve considerably due to improved fuel quality.
  - NO<sub>x</sub> emissions expected to be nominally similar to gas oil operation, in agreement with Siemens SGT-800 trial at Rya Combined Heat and Power Plant in Gothenburg, Sweden (November 2021)<sup>2</sup>.
- 80-90% lifecycle CO<sub>2</sub> reduction achievable **today** (equiv. to >90%vol hydrogen cofiring).

# Key Considerations for Use of HVO in GTs

- Produced to a transport fuel specification (EN 15940) which does not include all necessary properties for gas turbines (e.g., trace metals).
- Fuel availability and competition from the transport sector.
- Certification of lifecycle greenhouse gas reduction and feedstock sustainability.
- For retrofit/conversion from diesel, Jet A-1, or heating oil, HVO may cause shrinkage of seal materials in the fuel supply system due to the lack of aromatics.
  - Conduct seal materials audit, increase monitoring of fuel system post-conversion.
- No long-term reliability or maintenance data available for GT operation with HVO.
  - Reduce initial gas turbine inspection interval to obtain baseline condition.
- Odourless and colourless causing a potential leak detection issue.
- Social/political acceptance of using bio-derived fuels for power generation.

# The future is now...HVO commissioned at Malmö in September 2023<sup>1</sup>



We are converting our gas turbines  
to run on renewable fuel.

<https://youtu.be/ImQgXsbGg5s?si=0FGuOk980SmzpD2n>



# Questions?

## Field Demonstrations of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil as Biofuel for Gas Turbine Decarbonisation

For any further questions, please contact me at:

Dr. Jon Runyon

[jon.runyon@uniper.energy](mailto:jon.runyon@uniper.energy)

[www.uniper.energy](http://www.uniper.energy)



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