

PRESS RELEASE – [www.biomassBEST.com](http://www.biomassBEST.com)

ST. ADOLPHE, MANITOBA (Oct 2, 2012) A demonstration of innovation in straw burning furnace technology will take place in the RM of St. Adolphe with an on-site demonstration at the BiomassBest Research Center one mile east of St Adolphe. Press bookings for interviews and photo ops available, to accommodate your deadline schedules.

The BiomassBEST 6+ million BTU furnace consumes a large round bale of straw, weighing approximately 500kg every hour. Yet at peak efficiency it produces only a thin wisp of white water vapour. It does so by the process of gasification. Essentially the gasification afterburner burns any smoke at temperatures up to 3000 degrees Fahrenheit (1600+ C). Besides the obvious heat there are a few other great benefits you may not have considered:

The straw burning furnace **cleans up the air pollution** that comes with burning field straw. The black smoke contains noxious substances such as carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxide. The health effects of this burn off can be felt many miles from the source. Nitrogen oxide reacts with a number of common organic chemicals to produce a wide variety of toxic by-products. These products are responsible for everything from lung disease to biological mutations and acid rain.

This year drought conditions in the US made it advisable for farmers to bale all their straw. By using straw, manure, and other organic waste as fuel the Innovaat gasifier can help to ensure that the air is healthier for all Canadians to breathe every year. Our system is CO2 neutral. We call it “Sequestered Solar Energy.”

Another by-product of field burned straw ash is **silica**(sand). Wheat absorbs silica. It is what gives wheat straw its strength and yellow colour. With the Innovaat gasification system silica is retained in the furnace. It liquefies and is collected in specially designed containers. It does not escape into the atmosphere as it does with field burned straw.

With the BiomassBest gasifier no special pelletization or other industrial process are needed. Insert raw straw bales on the conveyer at one end, and get abundant heat power from the cleanly burned straw at the other. Heat can be used to generate electricity and provide heat to replace hydro, coal and natural gas heating systems. When installed into a fully contained structure, this system can be used to heat Portage and Main businesses with “greener than green” environmentally friendly heat.

With the right incentives in place the gasification furnace could be used for year round agriculture in Manitoba; providing fresh local produce year round. It can provide heat for 100 homes, industrial parks, or many other uses.

BiomassBEST will demonstrate this new furnace operating at capacity. This furnace has a wider operational range and more advanced controls than ever. A partially finished three million BTU furnace will also be on display at the demonstration facility.

Manitoba Rural Adaptation Council (MRAC) has administered \$189,000 in Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada funding to BEST Inc and its partners U of Manitoba and ManSEA for: **Developing air control strategies for gasification using agri-feedstocks for nonattended operations** project lead by BEST Inc.

Press are invited to the demonstration event. Additional interviews with Raymond Dueck can also be arranged prior to the event. Please call us at 204-883-2378 for more info. [www.BiomassBEST.com](http://www.BiomassBEST.com)