



Sustainable Aviation Fuel Offers Hope for a Cleaner Aviation Future, But Decarbonizing Air Travel 'Requires Everyone On-board'



Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) is gaining traction as a key factor in reducing carbon emissions, with its market value predicted to reach \$131 billion by 2033, up from \$1.29 billion in 2023, according to BIS Research.

Amidst the prevailing challenges, Apical underscored SAF's potential to reduce CO2 emissions of the aviation industry by up to 40%, instilling optimism for a cleaner aviation sector. Southeast Asia, in particular, holds a pivotal role as the industry ramps up SAF production on a global scale.

To drive SAF adoption, Apical emphasized the need for policy interventions, sustainable financing, and stronger demand signals. Governments globally are expected to mandate SAF usage and establish incentive schemes aligned with international standards.

Apical, a major vegetable oil processor, aims to become a leading second-generation biofuel feedstock provider through partnerships, such as the one with Cepsa. Their collaboration, set to complete in 2026, will result in Southeast Asia's largest second-generation biofuel plant with a production capacity of 500,000 tonnes per annum.

Carlos Barrasa of Cepsa echoed the importance of SAF, emphasizing its financial and technical advantages. He stressed the need for consistent regulations, subsidies, and support to unlock SAF's full potential in decarbonizing the aviation industry.

Apical Honored with SAWIT INDONESIA Award 2023 for Empowering MSMEs in through Educational Initiatives



Apical has been named as the most reputable palm oil company for its efforts to educate Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Indonesia by Majalah SAWIT INDONESIA.

The SAWIT INDONESIA Award 2023 acknowledges Apical's contribution to the palm oil industry. Apical's educational programs for over 600 small businesses across Indonesia have empowered entrepreneurs with the skills needed for growth, complemented by sustainably produced products.

George Tjiptamustika, Market Development Manager, emphasized, "Education is the foundation of sustainable progress." The award ceremony at Borobudur Hotel in Central Jakarta on December 20, 2023, marking a significant milestone toward a more sustainable and prosperous future for all.

Apical Group Marunda Named Top Investor in East Jakarta's Kawasan Berikat



On November 13, 2023, Apical Group Marunda received the Best Investor in Kawasan Berikat award from the Kawasan Berikat Marunda of East Jakarta Authorities for 2023.

This recognition highlights Apical's unwavering commitment to excellence in the downstream palm oil processing industry, setting new standards and making a positive impact on the environment, community, and economy. The company's achievements showcase resilience and innovation, sending a powerful message to the industry about thriving while upholding ethical and environmental standards.

As a downstream oil processor, Apical is rewriting the narrative, demonstrating that it is possible to succeed while contributing to a sustainable future and empowering smallholders while protecting the planet.

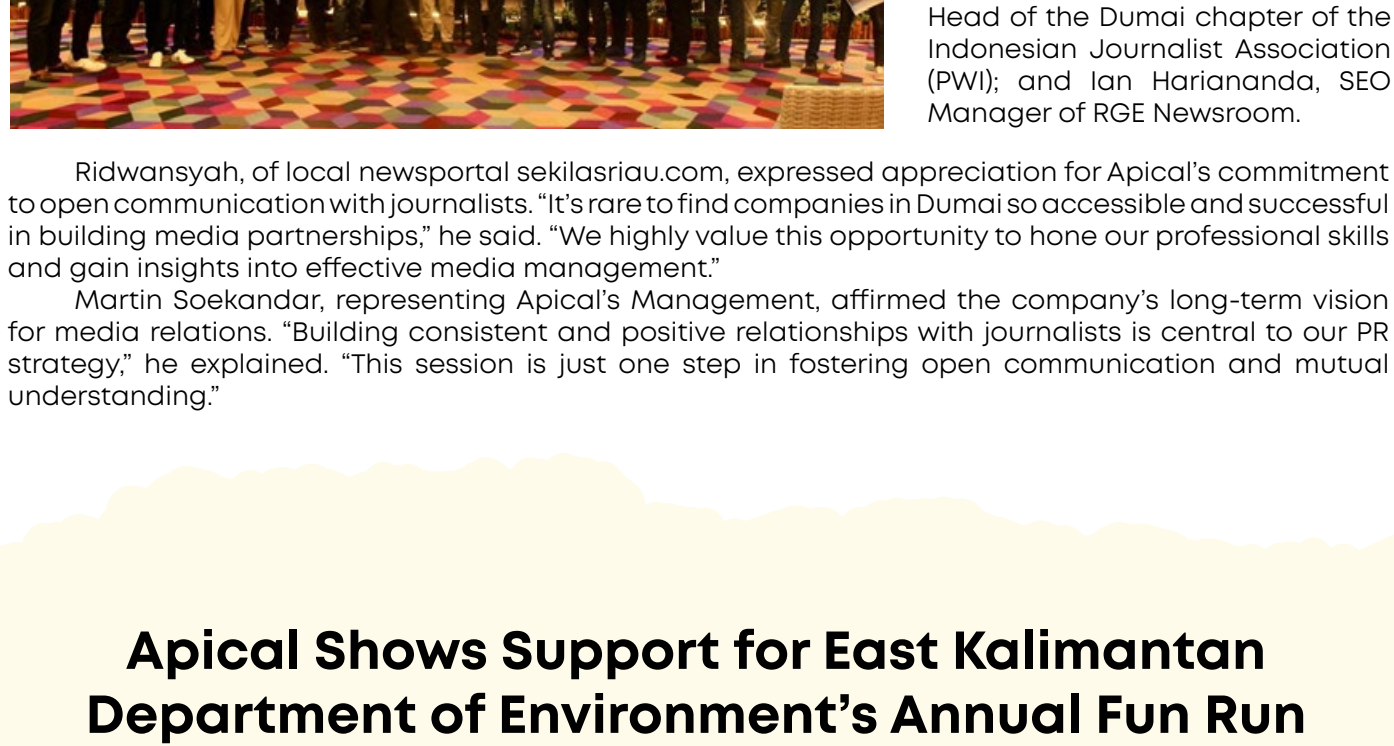
Apical Soars with Subroto Award, Fueling Innovation in Energy



Apical, a leading energy player, took center stage recently in Bali receiving the prestigious Subroto Award 2023 in New Energy, Renewables, and Energy Conservation. This recognition from Indonesia's Ministry of Energy and Minerals Resources validates Apical's relentless pursuit of excellence, innovation, and sustainability throughout the year.

It is the country's highest award in the energy and mineral resources sector and is given to recognize those who have made significant contributions to the sector in the past year. The Subroto Award is testament to Apical's impact to the energy sector, in alignment with its Apical2030 commitment.

Apical Celebrates RGE Founder's Day by Giving Back to the Community



Apical marked RGE Founder's Day by contributing to the community through various service initiatives held from October to early December in cities where it operates.

RGE Founder's Day has become an annual tradition where RGE staff worldwide dedicate time to support local communities, focusing on community service and RGE's core values. The day reflects the spirit of RGE Founder Sukanto Tanoto's SC's philosophy for sustainable business, emphasizing that a company's success is intertwined with its positive impact on the community, country, climate, and customers.

RGE Founder's Day embodies Founder and Chairman Mr Sukanto Tanoto's credo "The More You Give, The More You Have." Apical's Indonesian team executed a range of initiatives as part of the celebration around the world.

In Padang, Apical conducted activities such as beach clean up at Puncak Ketapung, tree sapling planting, and donations to health community services. Michael Jeffrey, a representative of Apical Group Padang's management said, "Apical has consistently focused on creating social, environmental, and community impacts."

In Balikpapan, Apical donated food and clothing to Al-Mu'min orphanage while providing complimentary health check-ups for the elderly and children. The Founder's Day initiative was dovetailed with the groundwork for a new office and residential building to better serve the community in the future.

In Dumai, Apical celebrated RGE Founder's Day with complimentary eye health checks, free glasses for elementary students, and donations to schools for children with special needs. The company also contributed to reducing stunting in the surrounding areas, planting spruce seedlings, and participating in coastal cleanup activities.

Apical Supports Forwin Futsal Cup 2023, Building Bonds and Promoting Sportsmanship



On November 25, 2023, Apical sponsored the Futsal Forwin Cup 2023, an exciting tournament initiated by the industry. The event was supported by the Ministry of Industry (Kemnakerin).

This tournament provided a valuable platform to foster strong connections, cultivate collaboration, and solidify relationships within the industry. Participating teams, including the passionate Agriculture Journalists' Forum (Forwata), showcased their love for futsal and the spirit of friendly competition.

Minister of Industry Agus Gumiwang Kartasasmita warmly welcomed the activity, stating it "encourages sports activities and strengthens ties of friendship among stakeholders, such as the forum of journalists and companies." He said this after reviewing a match between the Forwin team and the Automotive Journalists Forum (Forwat) in Jakarta on Saturday, November 25th.

Sports like futsal go beyond mere physical activity and entertainment. They forge bonds, build bridges, and instill valuable qualities like teamwork, discipline, and perseverance. Apical recognizes the transformative power of sports, which can positively impact individuals and communities alike.

In recognizing these benefits, Apical extended its support to Forwata as they participated in the Futsal Forwin Cup 2023. "The company values the crucial role journalists play in delivering insightful news and information to society. This sponsorship serves as a way to express appreciation for their dedication and hard work while promoting a healthy and active lifestyle."

Apical Joins Forces with Bisnis Indonesia to Empower Riau MSMEs



Leading Indonesian business news outlet Bisnis Indonesia, in partnership with Bank Indonesia and the Riau Provincial government, hosted an event on December 5, 2023, to support and empower micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the region.

Apical proudly stepped up as a key supporter of this valuable initiative.

Recognizing the vital role MSMEs play in the Indonesian economy, the event focused on providing educational resources and guidance to address the challenges faced by these businesses. Industry Minister Agus Gumiwang Kartasasmita emphasized the need for collaboration, stating, "Government efforts alone cannot propel MSME growth. We need a united front – ministries, financial institutions, and the private sector – to overcome the various obstacles hindering their success."

The Head of the Riau chapter of the Association of Indonesian Oil Palm Smallholders (Apkasindo), Wijatnoko, senior officials from state-owned lenders, the state-owned Health Care and Social Security Agency (BPJS Kesehatan) and The Workers Social Security Agency (BPJS Ketenagakerjaan) also participated in the event.

Bisnis Indonesia team also has opportunities to meet with Apical team, in which Apical explains about its businesses. The editorial team also plans to interview MSMEs under the care of Apical and what Apical has contributed to infrastructure development in its surrounding operations.

Apical Empowers Dumai Media with Digital Training and Knowledge Sharing



On November 10, 2023, Apical invited 75 dedicated media professionals from Dumai, Riau province to participate in a transformative digital training and knowledge-sharing session. This initiative aimed to empower local media outlets and journalists through upskilling in the ever-evolving digital landscape.

The event featured prominent figures such as Yura Syahrul, Chief Editor of national newswortal Katadata; Bambang Hendriyanto, Head of the Dumai chapter of the Indonesian Journalist Association (PWI); and lan Harlananda, SEO Manager of RAN Eveningstar.

Ridwansyah, of local newswortal sekilasriau.com, expressed appreciation for Apical's commitment to open communication with journalists. "It's rare to find companies in Dumai so accessible and successful in building media partnerships," he said. "We highly value this opportunity to hone our professional skills and gain insights into effective media management."

As a staunch advocate for sustainable practices, Apical's Management, affirmed the company's long-term vision for media relations. "Building consistent and positive relationships with journalists is central to our PR strategy," he explained. "This session is just one step in fostering open communication and mutual understanding."

Apical Shows Support for East Kalimantan Department of Environment's Annual Fun Run



Apical continues to demonstrate its strong dedication to environmental stewardship by supporting the East Kalimantan Department of Environment in their annual Fun Run.

As a staunch advocate for sustainable practices, Apical is unwavering in its commitment to making a positive impact on the environment, as outlined in its sustainability initiative, Apical2030.

Apical2030 is an initiative aimed at fostering a greener and more eco-friendly future. Through active participation in events like the annual Fun Run, Apical's employees and supporters showcase their dedication to environmental preservation, illustrating that even small but meaningful steps can contribute significantly to making a positive difference.

Apical Partners with Solo City Government for Culinary Showcase

Apical partners with the Solo City Government to spark innovation among local micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) at the "Taste Creations" culinary showcase. Over 100 MSMEs participated in the two-day event, held at the PLUT KUMKM Building.

Apical chefs worked the crowd with dishes like tiger roll cake and crispy chicken, prepared using their sustainable Vitas, Cole, Margarine and Frybest frying oil. This demonstrated the versatility and health benefits of their products, ideal for everyday cooking.

Surakarta City, a champion of MSME development, saw a 300% increase in operating MSMEs from 2021 to 2022. "We welcome private sector partnerships like this," says Wahyu Kristina, Head of the Cooperative, SME, and Industry Office, "to enhance their skills and business knowledge."

George Tjiptamustika, Market Development Manager at Apical Group, echoes this sentiment: "We aim to stimulate MSME growth and showcase brands like Vitas, Medalia, and Frybest. The diverse recipes we presented are meant to inspire product development."

Devi Amriah, an MSME owner, says, "These events help us hone our skills and unleash creativity. We hope for more like this in the future."

Beyond the showcase, Apical held another demo at a solo baking center, expanding their reach and commitment to inspiring Indonesian MSMEs.

Third Cooperative Receives RSPO Certification under SMILE Programme

In a significant milestone at the 2023 RSPO RT Meeting in Jakarta, the Smallholder Inclusion for Better Livelihood & Empowerment (SMILE) initiative proudly announces the RSPO certification of its cooperative members. This achievement reflects Apical's unwavering commitment to sustainability, ethical practices, and inclusivity across its operations and supply chain.

The SPOTT assessment, by the Zoological Society of London, evaluates palm oil players on 186 indicators. Apical excels across environmental, social, and governance (ESG) aspects, surpassing the industry average by over 100%. They achieved perfect scores in crucial areas like deforestation, community engagement, and labor rights.

Bremen Yong, Apical's Sustainability Director, credits their success to shared responsibility throughout the supply chain. "The Apical2030 initiative outlines ambitious targets for partnerships, climate action, innovation, and inclusive progress."

Apical's consistent top-three ranking in SPOTT showcases their dedication to continuous improvement. By prioritizing inclusivity, transparency, and robust ESG practices, Apical sets a strong example for a more sustainable palm oil industry.

Since 2020, the Smallholder Inclusion for Better Livelihood & Empowerment (SMILE) program has championed sustainable palm oil practices, securing its third cooperative RSPO certification at the 2023 RSPO meeting in Jakarta. The program, a collaboration between Apical, Asian Agri, and Koo, focuses on inclusivity, with a total of 628 certified independent smallholders (ISH) under SMILE.

Recognizing the stringent challenges faced by smallholders in meeting strict sustainability criteria while increasing production, SMILE contributes to Asian Agri and Apical's 2030 sustainability commitments. The program emphasizes inclusivity, providing guidance and support to smallholders like Sutoyo, president of the Asosiasi Petani Sawit Swadaya Anugrah in Riau. Overcoming obstacles, Sutoyo's cooperative, with 238 members cultivating 571 hectares, achieved RSPO Certification through SMILE's mentorship.

SMILE prioritizes inclusivity and essential training to empower smallholders, ensuring industry sustainability standards are elevated.

Entering its third phase, SMILE remains committed to empowering smallholders and promoting sustainable practices through mentorship, training, and collaboration. The program aims to uplift more cooperatives, enabling them to achieve RSPO Certification and contribute to a resilient and sustainable palm oil sector.

Apical Named Second Most Transparent Palm Oil Company in World

Palm oil leader Apical advanced to second place in the 2023 SPOTT ranking, a 4% jump to 95.3%. This achievement reflects Apical's unwavering commitment to sustainability, ethical practices, and inclusivity across its operations and supply chain.

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RSPO Annual Roundtable Conference 2023: Embracing Sustainability and Smallholder Inclusion

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Apical Receives Recognition for Outstanding Public Relations and Media Engagement

Apical has clinched the Best Public Relations and Media Engagement Programs award from SAWIT INDONESIA magazine on Thursday, December 21, 2023, at Borobudur Hotel, recognizing several companies for their contributions to the palm oil industry. The recognition underscores Apical's commitment to champion the cause of sustainability and collaborative efforts within the palm oil sector.

Apical's win in the Public Relations and Media Engagement category reflects the company's dedication to building strong partnerships and advocating for sustainability practices. The practices not only acknowledge Apical's achievements but also honor the collective efforts of a passionate team committed to making a positive impact.

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