



NEWS RELEASE

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Randy Olson named executive director of the Iowa Biodiesel Board

Urbandale, Iowa – The newly formed Iowa Biodiesel Board has selected Randy Olson as its first executive director. In his new role, he will lead the daily operations of the Iowa Biodiesel Board from its offices in Urbandale.

Olson will work to promote the commercial success of biodiesel in the state of Iowa. He will work with a nine-member board of directors representing biodiesel manufacturers, feedstock supply associations, marketers and end-users.

The Iowa Biodiesel Board is a voluntary, non-profit, membership organization that is led by manufacturers of biodiesel, but also inclusive of others that have a stake in the fuel's success. Biodiesel manufacturers asked the Iowa Soybean Association to assist in the formation of this new entity, and Olson was hired to coordinate this effort.

Olson was selected for the executive director position as a result of his extensive background in both the chemical and financial industries.

“Having worked with chemical manufacturing operations and also with investors, Olson provides a unique perspective as we work to ensure that the biodiesel industry in Iowa is robust,” said Grant Kimberley, director of market development for the Iowa Soybean Association.

A native Iowan, Olson returned to the state five years ago to purchase the acreage on his family's Century Farm.

“I'm thrilled to be working in an industry that is providing jobs for rural Iowa. Manufacturers of biodiesel in our state, and those who market and use biodiesel, are leaders in our nation's quest to become less reliant on imported Middle East crude oil,” said Olson.

For more information about Randy Olson or the Iowa Biodiesel Board, please contact the Iowa Biodiesel Board at 515-727-0664, or visit the Web site, www.iowabiodiesel.org.

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