

PRESS RELEASE

NetZero unveils new patented technology for large-scale biochar production

- NetZero's 'Gen2' system redefines the concept of a biochar production site, using an entirely modular and containerized approach, drastically reducing materials use, and considerably improving performance.
- This new technology, entirely developed in house, is one of the cornerstones of NetZero's scaling strategy, allowing to mass-manufacture equipments, standardize projects, speed up their implementation, and facilitate their operation and maintenance.
- Gen2 is being officially unveiled this week at the 'Energy Experience' exhibition organized in Paris by Dassault Systèmes, the leading provider of industrial design and simulation softwares, which has been a partner of NetZero since 2022.

Paris (France), 20 March 2025 – After several years of research and development, NetZero is unveiling today its newest generation of technology for large-scale biochar production.

The solution, baptized 'Gen2', represents a radical change in topology, productivity, and efficiency compared with NetZero's current Gen1 technology. Building a production site with this new system requires 50% less area, 90% less concrete, and 80% less steel, while doubling the throughput versus Gen1. This is notably achieved through a full containerisation approach, including the production hangar itself.

More fundamentally, Gen2 was designed to reshape the way a biochar facility is installed, operated, and maintained through a fully modular design, a high degree of automation, and the ability to process a wide range of biomasses. This notably allows for lower costs, lower staff needs, and a significantly faster deployment time.



First full-scale implementation of Gen2 in NetZero's R&D centre.

This new generation of technology, for which NetZero has filed a patent, is entirely manufactured in Brazil. The first units will be deployed later this year in coffee and sugarcane projects.

The announcement is made on the occasion of the “Energy Experience” exhibition, organized in Paris by Dassault Systèmes, where NetZero’s Gen2 is featured in a virtual-reality tour. Dassault Systèmes has been a key technical partner for NetZero, providing cutting-edge simulation tools for industrial design and virtual-twin modelling.

A Finalist of the XPRIZE Carbon Removal international competition, NetZero is one of the leading players in the large-scale deployment of biochar for atmospheric carbon removal and sustainable agriculture. The company partners with sustainability leaders like Nespresso and BCG, and counts multiple tier-1 investors such as L’Oréal, Stellantis, and the French Development Agency

Axel Reinaud, Co-founder & CEO of NetZero, said: *“Building Gen2 was one of the key strategic objectives we had since the foundation of NetZero 4 years ago. It is one of the cornerstones of our ambition to reach Megatonne (1 million tonnes of CO₂ removed annually) by 2030. It is also a decisive move of standardisation to make it possible to manage hundreds of sites mid-term.”*

Osvane Faria, Research and Development Director of NetZero, said: *“Gen2 is the culmination of NetZero’s expertise in pyrolysis and industrial operations. It has been conceived leveraging the most recent science and technologies, also incorporating all the practical learnings from our existing sites, with the aim to maximize safety, quality, availability, and overall performance. It was designed to be a fast turn-key solution that can be mass-manufactured and installed all over the world. To the best of our knowledge, Gen2 has the lowest carbon intensity of any biochar production system ever built while also being one of the most efficient.”*

ABOUT NETZERO

NetZero was founded in 2021 by Axel Reinaud, Dr. Jean Jouzel, Aimé Njiakin, Olivier Reinaud, and Pedro de Figueiredo. Its mission is to bring at scale biochar, one of the few climate solutions that can durably remove carbon from the atmosphere, as well as one of the few agricultural solutions allowing to reconcile productivity and sustainability.

By leveraging biochar in the tropics along a unique model, NetZero simultaneously tackles three pressing challenges in developing countries: climate change, sustainable agriculture, and overall rural development. The company is present in Cameroon and Brazil, operating mid-size industrial plants and currently working with over 600 farmers.

NetZero is a Finalist of Musk Foundation’s XPRIZE Carbon Removal competition, a recipient of the Efficient Solution label from Solar Impulse Foundation, a Green Tech prize winner of the Tech for Good Awards, and develops carbon removal projects certified under the Puro Standard. NetZero’s mid-term goal is to have removed more than 5 million tonnes of CO₂ from the atmosphere by 2030, while having improved the livelihoods of tens of thousands of farmers.

Learn more at: www.netzero.green

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