

[CBS Local Events](#) | [CBS Local Pages](#)


38°

H: 43° L: 16°
7 Day Forecast »
[View Traffic Report](#)

Home	News	Sports	Best Of	Watch+Listen	Deals	Fan Shop	Directory	Traffic	Weather	<input type="text"/>	<input type="submit" value="Q"/>
----------------------	----------------------	------------------------	-------------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------	--------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	----------------------	----------------------------------

GasTechno: Test Of Methanol Process A Big Success

February 6, 2011 3:36 PM

 Print Share 0 [Recommend](#) 2


The GasTechno test unit at work at a gas and oil well.

Turning “waste” natural gas that’s now simply flared off at many oil wells into useful ethanol and methanol – and at an attractive price — is now possible, thanks to technology developed by a Michigan company.

Gas Technologies LLC, based in Walloon Lake, is demonstrating the GasTechno process in a field-scale unit that fits in a 20-foot-long trailer. Their new commercial unit will be in a 40-foot-long trailer.

At an oil and gas processing plant in southern Michigan, Gas Technologies is turning pipeline natural gas with high levels of nitrogen into high-quality methanol and ethanol that burns with a clear blue flame.

GasTechno CEO and founder Walter Breidenstein said southern Michigan oil wells can bring up as much as 25 percent nitrogen in their gas, which makes the gas very difficult to sell – so it is often flared, meaning it’s simply burned off, with a special exemption to the no-flare policy issued by the state Department of Environmental [Quality](#), causing environmental concern.

The GasTechno process converts a variety of feedstocks into methanol using a simple, [low-maintenance](#), single-step process. It can use low-quality natural gas, landfill gas, biogas, biomethane, flared gas, coal bed methane and coal mine methane and convert it to methanol and other higher-value chemicals at a capital cost that’s 50 to 70 percent cheaper than its competition.

Unlike that competition, the GasTechno process requires no syngas production, does not use a catalyst, and is easily scalable – large or small.

Breidenstein said the product produced by the GasTechno test trailer was a blended methanol and ethanol product ready for further distillation and sale. He pointed out that the United States now imports about 80 percent of its methanol, and that Michigan has several large industrial users of methanol, including Dow Corning and Georgia-Pacific. Methanol is used to make plastics

 FILED UNDER
[Uncategorized](#)

LOCAL OFFERS

DETROIT

Get Detroit Daily Deal alerts by email.

Please enter your email here.

SIGN UP



DEAL OF THE DAY
 Enjoy \$30 of Authentic Polish Cuisine for \$15 at the Wawel Restaurant in the American Polish

[See more at](#)


CBS DETROIT VIDEO



Grammy Photos



Top 10 Detroit Snow Storms



Winter Survival Tips



Barry Sanders At SportsFest

Q R S T U V W X Y Z Search Listings

News

Sports

Best Of

Shopping |

Watch + Listen

Other

NOW ON CBS DETROIT

RECAP!!!
SPORTSFEST 97.1
 photos and video

MARCH 3RD
 THURSDAY
7:30AM
CLICK FOR TICKETS
 FEATURED SPEAKER
GOVERNOR RICK SNYDER

CLICK HERE TO ENTER

Law Enforcement Torch Run
POLAR PLUNGE
FEBRUARY 19
 To Benefit Special Olympics Michigan

Knowledge Center

THE DAILY J
 Get today's news in your inbox twice each day!

Detroit Business

Listings # A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P

VALENTINE'S DAY GUIDES

- [Detroit's Best Flowers](#)
- [Get Out On The Town With Your Valentine](#)
- [Tell Us Your Valentine's Day Plans – Daily Poll](#)
- [Best Places To Get Gifts For Him](#)
- [Best Chocolates In Detroit](#)

AUTO NEWS

- [GM Confirms Big Profit Sharing Checks](#)
- [Car Chronicles: Extra! February 14, 2011](#)
- [Gas Prices At The Pump Going Down](#)
- [Performance Bonuses Coming To GM White-Collar](#)
- [Levin Looks To Have Charging Stations On Capital Hill](#)

BEST OF SHOPPING

- [Best Wedding Registry Spots](#)
- [Detroit's Best Flowers](#)
- [Best Comic Book Stores In Detroit](#)
- [Best Places To Get Gifts For Him](#)
- [Best Chocolates In Detroit](#)

WATCH + LISTEN

- [Car Chronicles: Extra! February 14, 2011](#)
- [Rick Leach Talks With Terry Foster At SportsFest](#)
- [Ticket Chicks Have Fun With Inflatables At SportsFest](#)
- [Rev. Wendell Anthony On Michigan Matters](#)
- [Detroit's Stray Dogs: Video Goes Viral](#)

©2011 CBS Local



Media, a division of CBS Radio Inc. All rights reserved.
[Privacy Policy](#) [Terms of Use](#) [EEO Reports](#)
Powered by [WordPress.com](#) VIP



[CBS Detroit On Facebook](#)

[CBS Detroit On Twitter](#)

[CBS Detroit RSS Feed](#)