

FEATURE ARTICLE

From Brown to Green

Heading into the future





Innovative solutions for supply chain decarbonization

The future calls for a drastic reduction in the volume of CO₂ emissions. New fuels such as hydrogen, LNG and ammonia can help us to achieve this ambitious goal. Even so, their transportation and declaration requires a profound level of expertise – otherwise, the much-vaunted journey from brown to green, as it can be described, could quickly spiral out of control.

Even now, energy companies are struggling to get to grips with the obstacles and challenges associated with the production and distribution of green fuels. This is especially the case in the face of ever-changing laws and regulations. In addition to complex **compliance rules** and uncertainties with regard to **customs clearance**, there are **new risks** associated with handling unfamiliar commodities.

To expand on products and benefit from this, it is essential to work with specialists that have **decades of experience** in downstream operations.

The **digitization of business processes** facilitates the complete synchronization of all players in the supply



chain – with the only remaining question being how to physically handle these new energy sources. In terms of IT, all findings from downstream operations for fossil fuels need to be taken into account and integrated accordingly into the resulting solutions.



Fully charged and ready to go.

In addition to green hydrogen, electric mobility has a major role to play when it comes to the change in climate policy. However, ensuring the widespread availability of e-mobility solutions means that **fuel stations increasingly have to provide two different services:** as a provider of liquid fuels and as an electric charging station. Even now, modern IT systems can be used to bring about the **complete integration of all electric fuel stations** into an energy company's accounting services system. In other words, there is no need for additional cost-intensive investments.

Reducing CO2 throughout the supply chain.

Independent of the fuel being transported, companies in the downstream segment are tasked with **massively reducing their own CO2 emissions** – which they can use using **automated processes** that speed up all operations and minimize downtimes. From ships to trucks and more, modern solutions make sure **all distribution processes are optimized**, so that distribution can occur with maximum efficiency.

Everything is traceable.

Traceability from production to end customer is a key aspect of the journey towards green fuels. This calls for data exchange portals where all data and software formats can be consolidated to create a consistent data standard.

In the future, only those companies with an optimum network encompassing the entire downstream sector will be able to ensure complete **data transparency** for sustainable fuels and take on responsibility for **tracking and tracing**. Through this, energy companies can rest assured that the certificates of proof are correct and fully documented for the audit authorities.

Downstream optimization.

Complete transparency in the supply chain paves the way for the traceability of products such as LNG, ammonia and hydrogen, especially within the context of bulk logistics. **Automated processes and the real-time exchange of data improve the coordination of logistics processes** as well as communication between suppliers, traders and customers. Transparent workflows bolster the resilience of the supply chain and allow for requirements planning to be handled efficiently.

Data first, everything else follows.

Much has been said about climate footprint targets and how to achieve them. Now is the time to act – and data is the place to start. The fact is that the right data combined with the right applications **can be just as beneficial in terms of climate policy as using the new green fuels themselves**.



About Implico

Implico is a leading provider of solutions for the digitalization of business processes in the downstream segment. Embedded in the SAP environment and working in accordance with the SAP Clean Core approach, the company develops highly standardized products for S/4HANA that replace customized in-house solutions, thereby significantly increasing efficiency and security.

With over 40 years of experience in the distribution of liquid goods and the operation of filling stations, Implico's expertise is unrivaled when it comes to automating SAP processes and aggregating data. A holistic consulting approach, together with a profound quality assurance program, guarantee the smooth implementation of all solutions in the shortest possible time.

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business logic for logistics