

Today Renewed.

UPM Leuna Biorefinery Opening 2026

The world's largest industrial-scale biorefinery converting sustainably sourced hardwood and sawmill residues into renewable biochemicals.

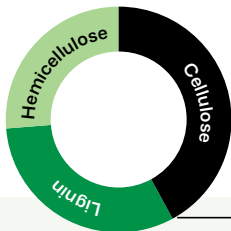


1. Biomass from sustainably managed, regional forests.

What it's made of.

Every product starts with wood.

Beechwood makes up around 20% of German forest area and is naturally increasing. UPM uses responsibly sourced thinnings and grades unsuitable for furniture or timber, from sustainably managed federal, state and private forests around Leuna and supplemented by residues from sawmills and other wood producers.



Three building blocks, each put to use.

~45%

Cellulose

Gives the wood its strength and structure.

~30%

Lignin

Makes the tree rigid, water-resistant and durable.

~25%

Hemicellulose

Binds the other two together and stores water.



Regional logistics chain

Thinning wood

Industrial wood

Sawmill residues



The biorefinery is triple-certified to ISCC PLUS, PEFC¹ and FSC^{TM2} chain-of-custody standards, confirming sustainable sourcing, full traceability and transparent operations. Regional sourcing partners and emission-optimized transport keep the supply chain short and clean.

¹ PEFC/04-31-3869 ² FSC-C210095

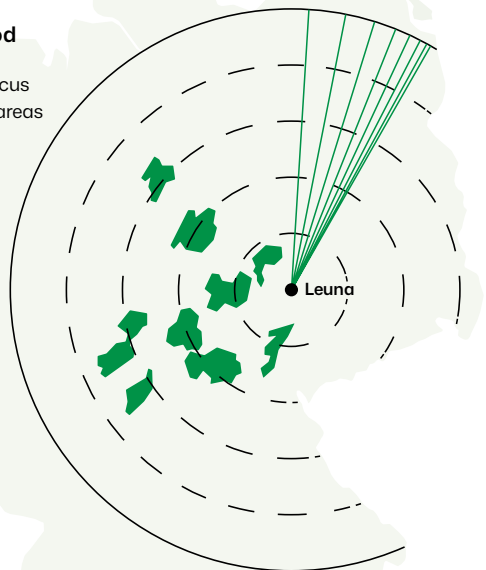
The origin of our wood

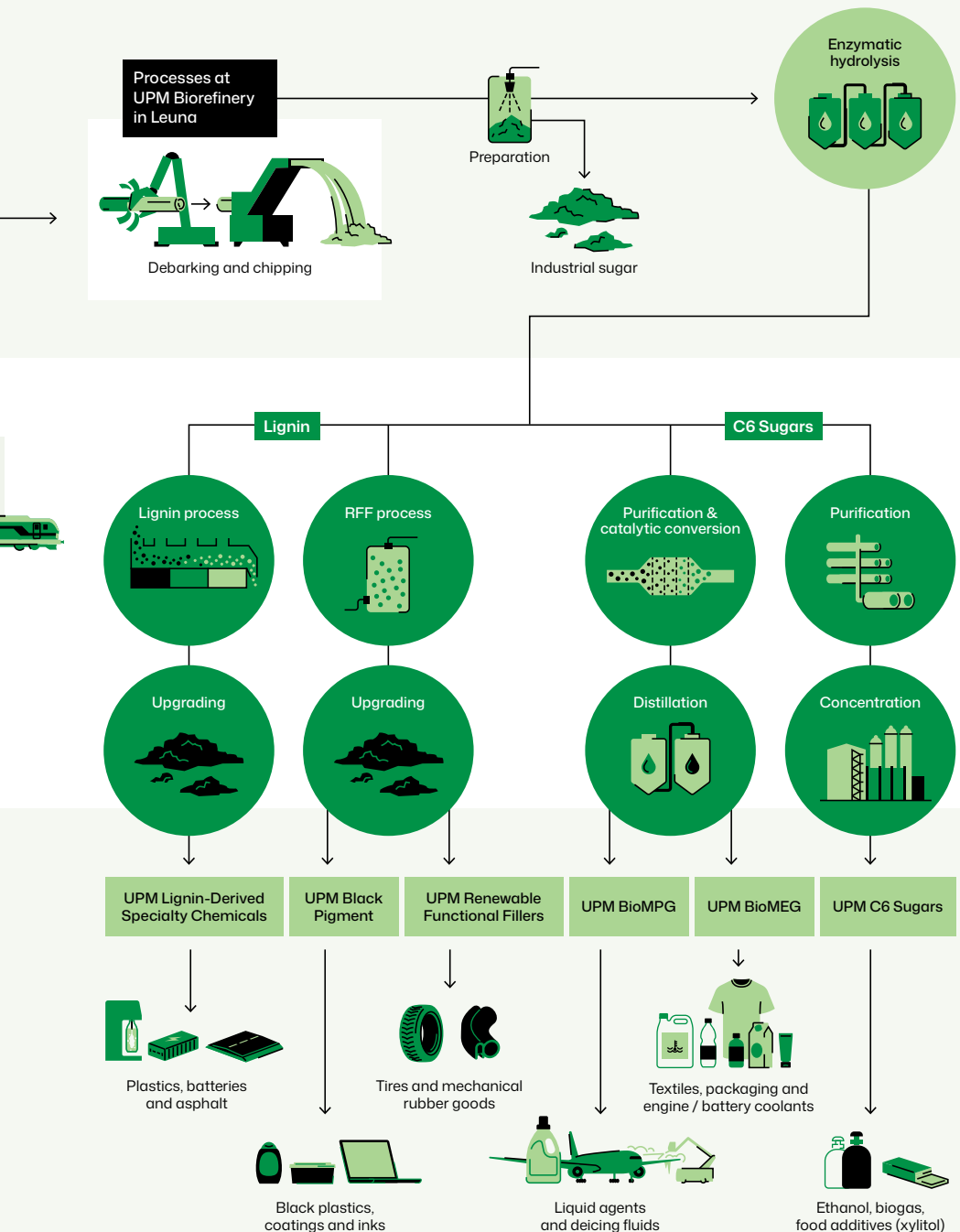


Primary sourcing focus



Extended sourcing areas





2. Unlocking the power of wood.

Separating the building blocks.

Wood is debarked, chipped and prepared.

Then the enzymatic hydrolysis goes to work: enzymes break down the cellulose in the pretreated pulp. After these steps, a log stops being a log and becomes chemistry. Three streams emerge: sugars and lignin. The intermediates for everything that follows.

3. The refinement.

From intermediate to biochemicals.

Two streams, refined in parallel.

C6 sugars are purified and concentrated into renewable industrial sugars, or converted and distilled into MEG and MPG.

In the reactor, lignin is converted into RFF to meet target quality requirements, such as achieving a specific surface area. It is then separated, dried and granulated. In the second process, the lignin is refined into specialty chemicals that serve as fillers and carbon sources, for example in construction materials and batteries.

4. Today Renewed.

How we renew the everyday.

UPM's Leuna biorefinery turns the need to decarbonize into a business opportunity:

Sustainably Superior



CO₂
negative



100%
renewable



100%
certified



Local EU
sourcing



Better technical
performance



Better
marketability



New product
combinations



Increased
economic yield

Technologically Innovative

5. Once a promise. Then a pilot. Now a platform.



Before the market. Before the regulation. Before the peers.

UPM has spent decades managing forests and turning them into products the world uses every day. The decision to go further, to convert wood into the renewable carbon molecules that modern materials for packaging, textiles and automotive depend on, was made in 2020. Before peers moved. Before the regulation required it. Before the market had proven the demand.



Operating today. In Saxony-Anhalt. At industrial scale.

What you are looking at is the result of that decision: a certified, traceable, locally rooted renewable carbon platform operating at industrial scale in the heart of Europe. Regional forests. Advanced fractionation. Drop-in molecules that fit directly into existing value chains, for packaging, automotive, textiles and beyond. Made in Europe. Available now.



We are not only opening a refinery. We are opening options.

Leuna is not the destination. It is the first node. The platform is already expanding beyond its original blueprint. As we built, the market began to show new routes forward: new feedstocks, new applications and new opportunities through lignin, Power-to-X and other renewable carbon pathways.



Local conversion. Local value. Made in Europe.

This is also Europe's answer to feedstock dependency, aligned with where European industrial policy and capital are now moving. Certified. Resilient. Replicable.



The doors are open. The next chapter is shared.

The platform has been built. Brands, customers, policymakers and partners: the next chapter is what we build together.

