

# Companies close to reusing the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide

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Reusing the major greenhouse gas carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from industrial plants—rather than releasing its warming potential into the environment—is on the verge of becoming a commercial reality. Several large chemical companies in Germany and small start-ups in the U.S. are leading the way, according to an article in *Chemical & Engineering News*, the weekly newsmagazine of the American Chemical Society.

Alex Scott, C&EN's senior editor for Europe, points out that German firms are at the forefront thanks partly to an infusion of cash from the government encouraging academic-industrial collaborations to develop CO<sub>2</sub>-based processes. Within the next few years, chemical giants including BASF and Bayer expect to roll out new processes to use waste CO<sub>2</sub> to make plastics, additives, fuels and other materials in an energy-efficient and cost-effective way.

The article notes that unlike their established counterparts across the Atlantic, the U.S. pioneers in this burgeoning sector are start-ups. Illinois-based LanzaTech is developing a process to convert CO<sub>2</sub> back into useful chemicals such as acetic acid, an important substance used in [industrial processes](#). Novomer, based in Massachusetts, plans to commercialize its products, including a raw material for plastics, as early as next year.

**More information:** [cen.acs.org/articles/91/i44/Commercialization.html](http://cen.acs.org/articles/91/i44/Commercialization.html)

Provided by American Chemical Society

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