

Synhelion fuels first construction machine with renewable diesel

Zurich, May 13, 2026

Cleantech company Synhelion has fueled an excavator operated by Swiss construction company Eberhard Bau AG with renewable diesel for the first time. The deployment at the Brüttener Tunnel construction site near Bassersdorf (Zurich) demonstrates that synthetic fuels perform reliably even under demanding conditions.

The renewable synthetic diesel comes from Synhelion's DAWN plant in Jülich, Germany, which has been producing fuels at industrial scale since 2024. With this first delivery, the two Swiss companies send an important signal for the sustainable transformation of the construction industry.

A solution for machinery that is difficult to electrify

Heavy construction machines are difficult to electrify due to their high energy demands. On construction sites, with rough terrain and typically limited infrastructure, liquid fuels therefore remain the most practical solution.

Synhelion's renewable diesel delivers the same performance as conventional diesel while reducing net CO₂ emissions by up to 100%. As a drop-in fuel, it can be used in existing engines without any technical modifications, as demonstrated by its application in Eberhard Bau AG's excavator. Starting in 2027, the leading Swiss construction company will source larger volumes of Synhelion's diesel.

"Our employees operate heavy construction machinery under demanding conditions. What matters most is performance and reliability. This first deployment of Synhelion's diesel shows that renewable fuels work seamlessly in day-to-day construction operations," says Silvan Eberhard, Head of Logistics at Eberhard Unternehmungen.

Another real-world use for sustainable fuels

The first operation of an excavator powered by renewable diesel is another example of the wide range of applications for Synhelion's fuels. The cleantech company has already demonstrated the viability of renewable jet fuel, diesel, and gasoline in [aviation](#), [maritime](#), and [road](#) transportation.

"Machines in the construction and infrastructure sectors will continue to rely on liquid fuels for a long time to come," says Philipp Furler, Co-CEO and Co-Founder of Synhelion. "Renewable fuels offer a realistic and immediately deployable solution to reduce emissions in this sector. To make a real contribution to net-zero emissions, it is now crucial to scale up our technology in order to bring down production costs."

DAWN is Synhelion's first industrial plant that integrates all of the company's innovations for producing renewable fuels. With this demonstration plant, Synhelion has validated its technology at industrial scale, proving its readiness for large-scale deployment.

About Synhelion

Synhelion is a cleantech company developing scalable, competitive technology to produce renewable synthetic drop-in fuels for aviation, road, and marine transportation. Its proprietary technology enables the production of nearly CO₂-neutral fuels that are fully compatible with today's engines and fuel infrastructure. Since 2024, Synhelion has operated DAWN, its first industrial-scale renewable fuel plant, producing renewable jet fuel (SAF), diesel, and gasoline. Backed by strategic investors and international partners from various industries and transportation sectors, Synhelion is committed to replacing fossil fuels with renewable synthetic fuels to contribute to a net-zero transportation sector.

For more information, please visit www.synhelion.com.

About Eberhard

Eberhard Unternehmungen is a leading Swiss construction company based in Kloten, Switzerland. For over 70 years, Eberhard has stood for pioneering spirit, quality, and sustainable solutions in the construction industry. The company is active in the fields of civil engineering and road construction, demolition, excavation, recycling, and circular building materials, and has been committed to sustainable construction processes for many years. With innovative projects such as zirkulit® and the development of new circular models, Eberhard is providing important impetus for the transformation of the Swiss construction industry.

For more information, please visit: www.eberhard.ch

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Caption: Philipp Furler, Co-CEO and Co-Founder of Synhelion, in front of Eberhard's excavator powered by Synhelion's synthetic diesel. Source: Synhelion.

Press Kit

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