



17 JUNE 2025

## **SUGAR MANUFACTURERS SUPPORT THE ‘GROWING AUSTRALIA’S BIOECONOMY’ R&D ROADMAP**

The Australian Sugar Manufacturers (ASM) welcomes the release of the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) *Growing Australia's Bioeconomy* report. The report provides an R&D roadmap to establish a substantial biomanufacturing capability in Australia, taking sugar from paddock to powerhouse.

“Australian sugar manufacturers can establish world leading capabilities in bioenergy, biofuels, and biomaterials, while continuing to be a globally significant producer of sugar,” Mr Ash Salardini, CEO of ASM said.

“As an example, we can provide 500,000 homes with renewable baseload electricity by leveraging our biomass and can provide between 30-40% of the liquid fuel needs of domestic aviation.”

The establishment of a viable bioeconomy capability in Australia needs the right policy and regulatory settings to ensure Australian manufacturers can compete in what will be an international market for bioproducts. This includes a clear pathway on R&D.

“Sugar will be a regional manufacturing powerhouse if we can co-optimize the production of sugar and things like biofuels and bioenergy.”

“This requires R&D investment into areas like increasing the sugar and carbon content of cane, and investments in manufacturing processes that will ensure we can cost-effectively convert sugarcane into high value products beyond sugar,” Mr Salardini said.

The QUT report can be found here:

[https://eprints.qut.edu.au/257869/1/Growing\\_Australia\\_s\\_Bioeconomy\\_Report.pdf](https://eprints.qut.edu.au/257869/1/Growing_Australia_s_Bioeconomy_Report.pdf)



**ASM Media Contact**

Dr Christopher Wren

[c.wren@sugarmanufacturers.org](mailto:c.wren@sugarmanufacturers.org)

0493 592 577

***Australian Sugar Manufacturers (ASM)** is the peak industry body representing the nation's sugar manufacturing sector, contributing \$4.4 billion annually to the Australian economy and supporting more than 20,000 jobs in regional communities. ASM works closely with its members, industry stakeholders, and government to develop and advocate for policies that enhance the sustainability, competitiveness, and long-term economic contribution of the sugar manufacturing sector. From the production of raw sugar, bio-based manufacturing and generation of renewable energy, the sugar manufacturing sector continues to support communities, create jobs, and foster a sustainable future for the industry, and the broader economy.*