



THE PRODUCTION, USES AND ADVANTAGES OF BIODIESEL

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It has been my pleasure to present to you on the topic of the production, use and advantages of biodiesel. The Canadian biodiesel industry presently in its fledgling state, is an agriculturally-based industry that will have considerable environmental, social and economic impacts on our country.

Biodiesel is a sustainable and environmentally friendly fuel produced from vegetable oils, fats and waste greases.

Biodiesel can support agriculture here in Canada.

Biodiesel MUST meet strict standards in order to be marketed. Biodiesel that is not standardized will not be welcomed into the emerging marketplace. These standards include BQ-9000 and ASTM 6751.

Biodiesel may be used at any blend without modification to diesel engines. Typical blends are 5% biodiesel (B5) and 20% biodiesel (B20) with petroleum diesel. Some original engine manufacturers (OEM's) restrict blend levels.

Biodiesel has better lubrication properties than petroleum diesel, higher cetane and much lower sulfur content. In addition, it is a powerful solvent able to remove deposits on fuel lines, cleaning engines.

Biodiesel gels at a higher temperature than petroleum diesel does. However, low level blends (5%) perform in the same climates as petroleum diesel.

Biodiesel will help reduce the impact of climate change by reducing the production of greenhouse gases.

Production Ramps Up Worldwide

Canada needs to pick up the pace as the world's production of biodiesel continues to expand. For example, Europe produced over three billion liters of the fuel last year alone. If we do not produce an industry capacity, we will not be able to compete in a world market.

Governmental support for the biodiesel industry in Canada can be summarized by provincial and federal initiatives:

The province of Alberta supports biodiesel production through infrastructure, production and capital grants.

British Columbia and Ontario offer reduction and removal of provincial road taxes for biodiesel components of biodiesel blends.

The federal government has removed the excise tax on biodiesel, supports a renewable fuels standard of 2% by 2012 and 5% by 2015 and has recently announced capital support programs to ensure producer participation in the biofuels sector.

The Alberta Biodiesel Association

The Alberta Biodiesel Association (ABA) is actively looking for members to support the production and use of biodiesel in the province. This newly formed association provides the following:

1. Education related to the benefits and attributes of biodiesel
2. Information for end-users on implementing biodiesel into diesel fuelled vehicles
3. Support for consistent and stringent product integrity through member compliance to ASTM 6751 and BQ-9000 biodiesel supply specifications
4. Advocacy for policies that support a sustainable and successful Canadian biodiesel industry, from primary producers through to end-users.

Memberships are \$250 per annum. For more information, please contact the ABA Secretary to the Board Patrick Luft at: pluft@dominionbiodiesel.ca