

FAQs: For Fleet Managers of Private Fleets or Municipalities

Q: Is biodiesel cleaner burning than regular diesel?

A: Yes. The use of biodiesel in conventional diesel engines substantially reduces emissions of unburned hydrocarbons (HC), carbon monoxide (CO), sulfates, polycyclic aromatic HCs, nitrated polycyclic aromatic HCs, and particulate matter (PM). The reductions of these compounds increase as the amount of biodiesel blended into diesel fuel increases. It also reduces greenhouse gas emissions because the carbon dioxide released in biodiesel combustion is offset by the carbon dioxide sequestered while growing the feedstock.

Q: Can I use biodiesel in my existing diesel engine?

A: Yes! Biodiesel can be operated in any diesel engine with little or no modification to the engine or the fuel system. Biodiesel has a solvent effect that may release deposits accumulated on tank walls and pipes from previous diesel fuel storage. The release of deposits may clog filters initially and precautions should be taken. Ensure that only fuel meeting the biodiesel specification is used.



Q: Does biodiesel perform as well as diesel fuel?

A: Biodiesel can be used in existing diesel engines and fuel injection equipment in blends up to 20% with little impact on operating performance. Biodiesel has higher cetane than U.S. diesel fuel. B20 (20% blend of biodiesel with diesel fuel) provides similar fuel economy, horsepower, torque, and haulage rates as diesel fuel. Biodiesel also has superior lubricity, and it has the highest BTU content of any alternative fuel.

Q: Will biodiesel perform well in cold weather?

A: Just like common #2 diesel, certain high-freezing-point compounds in biodiesel will crystallize in very cold temperatures. As temperatures get colder, proper blending for B20 becomes more critical, and the fuel's sensitivity to process variations increases. Blends of 5% biodiesel and below have a small impact on cold-flow properties (measures of low temperature operability).

Q: Is my vehicle warranty at risk if I use biodiesel?

A: All major U.S. automakers and engine manufacturers accept the use of up to at least B5, and the majority of major engine companies have stated formally that the use of high quality biodiesel blends up to B20 meeting ASTM specs will not void their parts and workmanship warranties. In fact, all of Ford Motor Company's new F-Series Super Duty diesel pickup trucks feature a B20 emblem right on the side! For specific statements from manufacturers, visit: www.biodiesel.org/resources/oems.

Q: Will biodiesel plug my vehicle filters?

A: Biodiesel has a solvent effect proportionate to the amount of biodiesel in the fuel. For example, B100 has a higher solvent effect than B20. This will clean your vehicle's fuel system and could release deposits accumulated on tank walls and



in pipes from previous diesel fuel usage. The release of deposits in higher biodiesel blends may initially clog filters, so you should be proactive in checking for

and replacing clogged fuel filters. Once the build-up is eliminated, return to your regular replacement schedule. This issue is not prevalent with B20 and lower blends. There is no evidence that lower-blends plug filters.

Engine Manufacturers Supporting B20+:



Resources include: *Clean Cities Biodiesel Blends Fact Sheet* by the U.S. Department of Energy, and the National Biodiesel Board.



To learn more call: 914-939-3400
or visit: www.westmorefuel.com/nyfleet