

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NEWS RELEASE

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ETCFC EXCEEDS ITS 2005 GOAL FOR BIODIESEL USAGE IN EAST TENNESSEE BY A LONG SHOT

Knoxville, TN - The ETCFC is still verifying final numbers, but current records show that the coalition—a network of participants that stretches from Bristol in Sullivan County to South Pittsburg in Marion County—has far surpassed its 2005 calendar year goal of consuming 500,000 gallons of B100 as blends.

In 2004 we achieved a consumption level of almost 90,000 gallons of B100 as blends. In 2005, it appears that over 700,000 gallons of pure biodiesel were consumed. That equals approximately 5-6 million gallons of biodiesel blends consumed in total and is an increase of over 670% in one year.

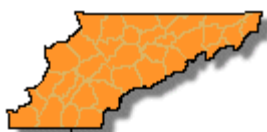
This was achieved via growth in both direct fleet blend delivery and the opening of more public stations. A combination of seven fuel distributors offered either blend delivery or opened public stations in 2005. East Tennessee's public station access increased from five in 2004 to 17 in 2005. Of the fuel distributors that offer biodiesel in East Tennessee, the top three in quantities supplied were: Benton Oil in Chattanooga, McNutt Oil in Maryville and Regal Fuels in Knoxville.

Direct fleet delivery was roughly 90% of the total, with public station consumption equaling 10%. The five major fleets that helped the ETCFC achieve this 2005 goal were: Knoxville Area Transit; Alcoa, Inc.; Eastman; Knoxville Utilities Board and the city of Chattanooga. Collectively, they consumed over 300,000 gallons of pure biodiesel, all as blends. Those companies are leaders in their community and are helping lead the way in furthering alternative fuels growth in our community.

Other alternative fuels also saw substantial growth in East Tennessee in 2005, including ethanol which didn't achieve any public station consumption as E85, but did see more than 50 public stations begin offering E10. 34 Pilot and 13 Appco convenience stores began offering E10 during 2005: the Pilot stations in and around Knox County and the Appco stations scattered around the Tri-Cities area. Some Weigel's convenience stores in the Knoxville area also began selling E10. The total amount of pure ethanol sold through those stations in 2005? On the order of 4 million gallons. Fleets that used E85 in East Tennessee were Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Knoxville Utilities Board.

For calendar year 2006, the ETCFC has five goals, two of which are related to biodiesel: consume 1 million gallons of B100 equivalent, and have biodiesel in use in all 33 counties in East Tennessee.

Partnerships are the lynchpin in our effort, and the ETCFC works everyday to engage new partners from all around East Tennessee. Just a few of the potential ETCFC partners that are now looking carefully at beginning the use of biodiesel in East Tennessee fleets include Sullivan County highway department, Johnson City mass transit and school systems, Blalock Companies, Cumberland County school system, Anderson County highway and EMS departments, and Loudon County departments.



Alternative Fuels to the Rescue

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The ETCFC is a participant
in the U.S. DOE's
Clean Cities Program