

What's New: Fall 2004 Update

Toolkit Helps Fleets Build E85 Sites

More and more covered fleets are acquiring E85 (85% ethanol, 15% gasoline) flexible fuel vehicles to meet their EPAAct requirements. To assist fleets in building onsite infrastructure, the EPAAct team is developing the E85 Fleet Toolkit, an online one-stop shop for E85 infrastructure development information.

The toolkit will help fleets evaluate their options in building E85 fueling sites and feature lessons learned by fleets that have successfully established them. It will also include helpful resources and information on equipment and technologies needed to install E85 infrastructure.

Fleets will benefit from questions and answers regarding the different aspects of infrastructure development; a step-by-step explanation of how to develop E85 fueling stations; and risk management techniques to evaluate safety, environmental, and training concerns.

The E85 Fleet Toolkit will be available on the Alternative Fuels Data Center (AFDC) Web site in winter 2004.

Easing Transitions

Coming into a fleet manager position can be difficult—especially if your predecessor wasn't there to train you on the ins and outs of EPAAct compliance. If you're new to the job, let us help. We can assist you over the phone. Contact Titan Corp at (800) 959-5780, afv_credit_acct@titan.com, and ask for help.

Also, download the following guidances from the EPAAct Web site (www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/epact/state/state_resources.shtml).

- "A Guidebook to the U.S. Department of Energy's Alternative Fuel Transportation Program for State and Alternative Fuel Provider Fleets" (The Bluebook)
- "Annual AFV Reporting for State and Alternative Fuel Provider Fleets"
- "Reporting Biodiesel Fuel Use Credits"

Fall Checklist

- ✓ Talk to vehicle suppliers and make plans to acquire model year (MY) 2005 alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs).
- ✓ Check the Vehicle Buyer's Guide (www.ccities.doe.gov/vbg/fleets) for a list of available MY 2005 AFVs.
- ✓ Ask fuel suppliers about the availability of biodiesel blends and other alternative fuels.
- ✓ Complete and submit your MY 2004 annual report by December 31, 2004.
- ✓ Report only the biodiesel portion of biodiesel blends (see guidance at www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/epact/pdfs/biodiesel_guidance.pdf).
- ✓ Remember: Hybrid electric and neighborhood electric vehicles do not count for credits. For more information, see compliance advisory at www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/epact/pdfs/0901_epact_advisory.pdf.
- ✓ Include the zip code for each vehicle's location.

Trend Tracking

In fiscal year 2005, the EPAAct team will publish case studies that profile covered state and alternative fuel provider fleets that have successfully worked biofuels—such as E85 and biodiesel—into their compliance strategies. Watch for these on the EPAAct Web site (www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/epact/state/state_resources.shtml).

- "Guidance: Documentation Requirements for Exemption Requests and Addendum"

If you are planning to vacate your fleet manager position, consider putting together a training packet for your successor. The kit should contain copies of the previously mentioned documents, as well as a list of helpful phone numbers, including the Regulatory Information Line and Titan, and Web site addresses for the EPAAct reporting database, Clean Cities, and the AFDC.



Training Course Presentations Available Online

School was in this summer for fleets who attended any of the four AFV train-the-trainer courses sponsored by EPA and Clean Cities. In response to requests by fleets that couldn't make it to one of the classes, the course presentations are now available online.

The course materials focus on what trainers need to know to confidently train drivers on the use of alternative fuels. Focusing specifically on E85, biodiesel, compressed natural gas (CNG), and propane, the presentations outline the benefits of the fuels, as well as each fuel's characteristics and properties. Safety practices, emergency action plans, vehicle technologies, and fueling procedures are also discussed.

The goals of the curriculum are transforming trainers into alternative fuel experts that can teach drivers how to use AFVs and having trainers add the course to their training packages.

The course materials are available on the AFDC Web site at www.eere.energy.gov/cleancities/afdc/tools/altfueltraining. The class is divided into four modules (one for each fuel type) and formatted in PowerPoint. To make the presentations even more useful, the EPA team is developing a companion manual with additional resources for each fuel type. Look for it on the AFDC Web site later this winter.

What is EPAAct?

The Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPAAct) was passed by Congress to reduce the nation's dependence on imported petroleum. Provisions of EPAAct require certain fleets to purchase AFVs. DOE administers these requirements through its State & Fuel Provider Rule, Federal Fleet Rule, and Alternative Fuel Designation Authority.

For more information, visit www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/epact, or call the Regulatory Information Line at (202) 586-9171.

New York Expands Access to CNG Clean Corridor

The State of New York is teaming with California-based Clean Energy to open New York's clean fuel corridor to the public and ensure availability of dependable CNG stations to state and other fleets.

The effort is Phase II in the state's plan to help further the use of CNG in New York. Phase I called for the development of approximately 30 fueling sites for state fleets. The mission of Phase II is to expand availability of the stations to private, local government, and other fleets.

Clean Energy is leasing and operating eight state-owned CNG stations located in Albany, Binghamton, Hauppauge, New Paltz, Poughkeepsie, Rush, Syracuse, and Utica—sites chosen for their close proximity to many state, private, and municipal fleets.

In May, Clean Energy constructed an additional station on Long Island. According to Mike Scarpino, Northeast Regional Clean Cities Project Manager with the U.S. Department of Energy, the Long Island site not only fulfills the CNG needs of local area fleets, it allows fleets to travel across the state in CNG vehicles.

All nine fueling sites are open 24 hours a day and fleets can pay at the pump using the New York State blue fueling card or major credit cards.

New York Governor George Pataki is enthusiastic about the state's partnership with Clean Energy. In late June he co-hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of a station in Hauppauge.

"New York is a model program for all states. It demonstrates leadership by 'walking the talk,'" Scarpino says. "If the other 49 states followed New York's lead, our country would have a robust alternative fuels industry, which would contribute to lowering our nation's dependence on foreign petroleum and improve the quality of the air we breathe."

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For more information contact: EERE Information Center
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