



SEAPORT

BIOFUELS

www.seaportbiofuels.com

Blending and Distribution

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Seaport Petroleum



- Over 50 years experience providing premium distribution to the Northwest area.
- Attributes its longevity to a firm commitment to gold standard customer service

Seaport Biofuels



- Blender and Distributor of biodiesel since 2004
- Distributes quality biodiesel blends 24 hours a day to the entire Northwest
- Has West Seattle's only B99 pump location

Blending and Distributing

- What is a Biodiesel Blend?
- Why is it blended?
- Benefits of different blends
- How it is blended
- Quality Assurance
- How to prepare your fleet to use biodiesel

What is a Biodiesel Blend?

- A biodiesel blend is a diesel fuel that is comprised of biodiesel and petroleum diesel.
- The name of the fuel refers to the percentage of biodiesel in the blend.
- Example: B20 is a blend of 20% biodiesel and 80% petroleum diesel.

Why is it Blended?

- Cost
- Ease of Fleet Operation
- Cold Weather Conditions
- Warranty Restrictions

*Most Commonly Used
Blends*

B99 B50 B20 B5

B99

- Uses the absolute minimum petroleum while still qualifying to receive the federal tax incentive
- Offers the maximum benefit of using a domestic renewable nontoxic fuel

B50

- Common cold weather blend for this area
- Offers significant environmental benefits

B20

- Depending on the price of petroleum diesel, B20 can be very affordable.
- Even with only 20% biodiesel, there are still significant environmental benefits.
- B20 displaces approximately the same amount of petroleum as hybrid vehicles.
- Can be a smoother mechanical transition than higher blends.

B5

- Functions as a “premium” diesel due to biodiesel’s high lubricity properties.

Importance of Proper Blending

Proper blending is crucial to successful fleet operation.

If improperly blended, you can end up with a layer of biodiesel that will freeze at temperatures higher than diesel, so you don't get a blend at all.

Blending Procedures

- Temperature is the most important element of successful blending.
- Both biodiesel and petroleum should be above 40 degrees Fahrenheit to ensure a homogenous blend.

Blends Lower Than B50

- Blending should be done with the biodiesel in the tank first, then have the petroleum diesel pumped in.

Blends Higher Than B50

- The method of which to add first is not as important as long as the temperature is in line until you get above B75.
- For example, our retail B99 has the petroleum added second. The biodiesel is kept inside and the tank heated so that they can blend freely.

Blending With ULSD

- In the special case of blending with Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel, we pump the biodiesel into our truck first and then go to the refinery to add the ULSD.
- At the refinery it is bottom loaded so that it blends rapidly with a high level of agitation.

Quality Assurance

Seaport Biofuels ensures
a homogenous blend
every time.

A Quality Concerned Blender:

- Only purchases quality biodiesel and quality petroleum from certified facilities
- Has strict handling and use procedures
- Has strict blending procedures that insure the proper blend each time
- Executes extensive product research

Blending Technology

- New methods of blending are being developed to make it more economical to blend with better precision.
- The key is to have a biodiesel distributor that is dedicated to biofuels rather than just short term profits . A distributor that will take the time to insure they are providing proper and complete blends.

There's No Proof

- Distributor integrity is important because at this point there is very little “proof” of blends.
- If in doubt, and when buying in bulk, ask for copies of the meter tickets for both products to prove the blend.

Customer Training

- In order to have a seamless transition, the fleet operator also has handling and use guidelines to follow.
- Due to biodiesel's high solvent property and cold weather sensitivity, certain precautions may need to be taken to prevent operational issues.

Fleet Operator Recommendations

- Replacing any natural rubber components in the fuel system like hoses and gaskets that biodiesel can slowly degrade
- Customizing a fuel filter monitoring schedule to prevent from clogging as the fuel system is cleaned by the biodiesel
- Have drivers keep a daily operations log
- Storing bulk biodiesel blends in a heated tank during winter months

Continuing Education

- Staying current with biodiesel technology and legislation gives us the tools to better communicate to our community and our customers the benefits of using biodiesel and the methods to get it to them.

Helpful Links

- www.seaportbiofuels.com
Information on Seaport, resource links as well as our current B99 pump price.
- www.pugetsoundcleancities.org
Comprehensive local site on grants, legislation, events and general information.
- www.nbb.org
Comprehensive national site for resource reports, press releases, national events, and general information.

Thank You!
Questions?

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