## Mid-Level Ethanol Blends Test Program

DOE, NREL, and ORNL Team

Presented by

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Work supported by DOE/EERE

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Office of the Biomass Program

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**Vehicle Technologies Program** 

Vehicle Technologies Program Annual Merit Review and Peer Evaluation meeting

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Project ID: ft\_05\_knoll





### **Collaborators**

Kevin Stork DOE OVT

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Ron Graves ORNL

Keith Knoll NREL

Doug Lawson NREL

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Brian West ORNL





Many other NREL, ORNL

and subcontractor staff

# **Overview**



#### **Timeline**

- Start: Summer 2007
- End: 2011?
- % complete: ~30%

## **Budget**

- Total project funding
  - DOE ~\$40M through FY10
  - Industry and EPA: \$6M additional
  - Contractors (DOE funds): ~\$34M •
- FY08: \$14.9M (OBP and VT)
- FY09: \$ 4M committed \$10-\$15M add'l expected (ARRA + VT)

#### **Barriers**

- Non-petroleum based fuels infrastructure and end use
  - E15/E20 not legal fuels
  - Infrastructure to dispense into vehicles
  - Vehicle/engine safety and warranty issues (e.g., materials)
  - Vehicle/engine emissions

## **Major Partners**

- EPA (government)
- CRC (autos and oils)
- OPEI (small nonroad engines)
- ISMA (snowmobiles)
- NMMA (marine)
- MIC (motorcycles and ATVs)

# **National Biofuels Targets**

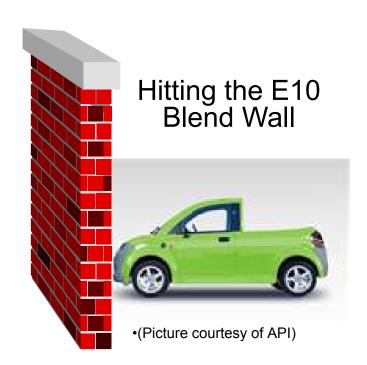
- New Renewable Fuel Standard
  - Expand use of renewable fuels to 36 billion gallons annually by 2022 (vs. 7.5B gal/yr by 2012 in EPAct 2005)
  - Limits corn based RIN credits to 15 bgy
  - Cellulosic biofuels component
    - 0.5 billion gallons by 2012
    - 3 billion gallons by 2015
    - 16 billion gallons by 2022
  - Includes Significant Safeguards
    - Ethanol production from corn is capped
    - EPA developing regulations to implement
    - EPA authorized to waive targets annually
    - Requires GHG reductions, which include land use impact
    - Requires studies on environmental impacts
- •DOE Longer-Term Goal (30 X 30)
  - Displace 30% of US gasoline consumption by 2030 with biofuels (60 billion gallons)

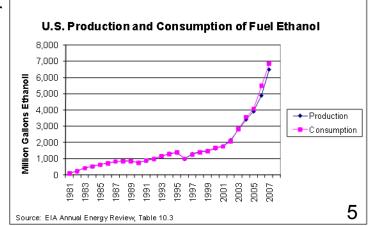


Best short-term option to displace gasoline - Ethanol

# Developing A Ready End-Use Market for Ethanol

- An estimated 9+ billion gallons of ethanol were used in the U.S. in 2008
  - More than 99% is used in the form of E10
  - E10 market will be saturated at about 11+ billion gallons in CY09 (blend wall).
- DOE strategy for expanding ethanol use
  - Evaluate feasibility of using mid-level ethanol blends (e.g., E15, E20) in conventional vehicles (non-flex fuel vehicles)
  - Already involved in expanding E85 by targeting specific regions/cities to establish high concentration of FFVs and infrastructure
- EPA has authority to issue a "substantially similar" waiver to allow alternative fuels to be used in place of gasoline
  - Evaluate effects on durability, driveability, materials, and emissions





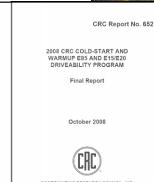
# **Goals and Objectives**

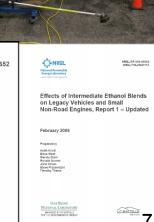
- Determine Effects of Mid-Level Ethanol Blends on Legacy Vehicles and Engines
  - Short-term Effects
    - Emissions
    - Driveability
    - Equipment failure
  - Long-term (full life) Effects
    - Emissions
    - Driveability
    - Durability
    - Safety
- Enable informed decision-making

# **Approach**

- Multiple parallel efforts
- Vehicle testing at national labs and subcontractors
  - ORNL, NREL
  - TRC
  - SwRI<sup>®</sup>, DRI, Elemental Analysis, Inc
  - ETC
- Small engine testing at National Labs and subcontractors
  - ORNL, NREL
  - TRC
- Industry/Stakeholder partnerships (e.g., CRC, EPA)
  - Share cost
  - Valuable guidance
- Report Progress Periodically













# **Technical Accomplishments -1**

- Completed and published Literature Review to guide program
- Completed and published Driveability program with CRC
- Completed Small Nonroad Engine pilot study
  - Published report October 2008
    - Announced by Energy Secretary Bodman with release of Biomass Action Plan
- Completed Legacy Vehicle Emissions Study
  - 16 vehicles (1999 to 2007) tested at 3 sites for short-term emissions and fuel economy, catalyst temperature
  - First published October 2008
  - Updated Report published February 2009

# **Technical Accomplishments -2**

- Began Detailed Vehicle Emissions Study with EPA
  - 22 vehicles to be tested with 31 match-blended fuels
- Began Full Useful Life Vehicle Emissions Studies
  - Up to 80 vehicles to be aged to full life to assess long term emissions impact of ethanol blends
  - 3 subcontracts, 3 test sites
- Began Vehicle Evaporative Emissions Study with CRC
  - 16 vehicle study with 6 fuels to assess evaporative emissions impacts of ethanol blends
- Began Materials Compatibility Studies
  - Examine wetted components or materials with ethanol blends

Task Summary
Team Developed List of 15 projects in Summer 2007

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V4	Full-life Vehicle Emissions Study (Catalyst Durability with CRC, E-87)	ORNL
V5	Vehicle Driveability with CRC (CM-138)	NREL
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V9	Vehicle On-board Diagnostics and Operations Issues	NA
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V11	Fleet Performance and Emissions with RIT	NREL
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SE4	Motorcycles, marine, ATVs, Snowmobiles	NA

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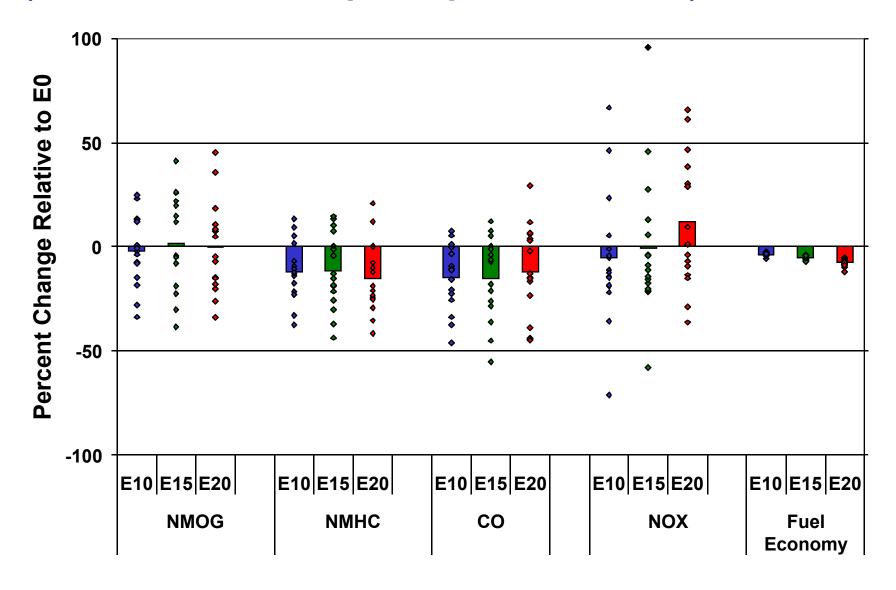
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## **V1- Test Vehicles**

OEM (make)	Model	Year	Engine	Initial odometer reading (miles)	Emission standard	Test site	LFT at WOT?
Chrysler	Town & Country	2007	3.3 L V6	35,000	Tier 2, Bin 5	NREL/CDPHE	N
Ford	F150	2007	5.4 L V8	28,600	Tier 2, Bin 8	TRC	Υ
Ford	F150	2003	5.4 L V8	57,000	Tier 1 LEV	TRC	Υ
Ford	Taurus	2003	3.0 L V6	89,600	Tier 2, Bin 8	TRC	N
GM (Buick)	Lucerne	2007	3.8 L V6	10,000	Tier 2, Bin 5 (CA LEV II)	NREL/CDPHE and ORNL*	Y
GM (Buick)	LeSabre	2003	3.8 L V6	78,000	Tier 2, Bin 8	NREL/CDPHE	Υ
GM	Silverado	2007	4.8 L V8	12,800	Tier 2, Bin 8	TRC	Υ
Honda	Accord	2007	2.4 L I4	11,400	Tier 2, Bin 5 (CA LEV II)	TRC	N
Nissan	Altima	2003	3.5 L V6	53,300	LEV	TRC	N
Toyota	Camry	2007	2.4 L I4	26,440	Tier 2, Bin 5	ORNL and NREL/CDPHE*	Y
Toyota	Camry	2003	2.4 L I4	72,800	ULEV	ORNL	N
Chrysler	PT Cruiser	2001	2.4 L I4	93,400	NLEV	NREL/CDPHE	Υ
Ford	Crown Victoria	1999	4.6 L V8	50,900	ULEV	NREL/CDPHE	Υ
Honda	Civic	1999	1.6 L I4	79,680	Tier 1	ORNL	N
Toyota	Corolla	1999	1.8 L I4	96,400	Tier 1	NREL/CDPHE	Υ
vw	Golf GTI	2004	1.8 L I4 Turbo	32,900	Tier 2, Bin 8	ORNL	Υ

### **V1- Vehicle Emissions Results:**

(16 Vehicle Fleet – each point represents a vehicle)



## **Task Summary** Team Developed List of 15 projects in Summer 2007

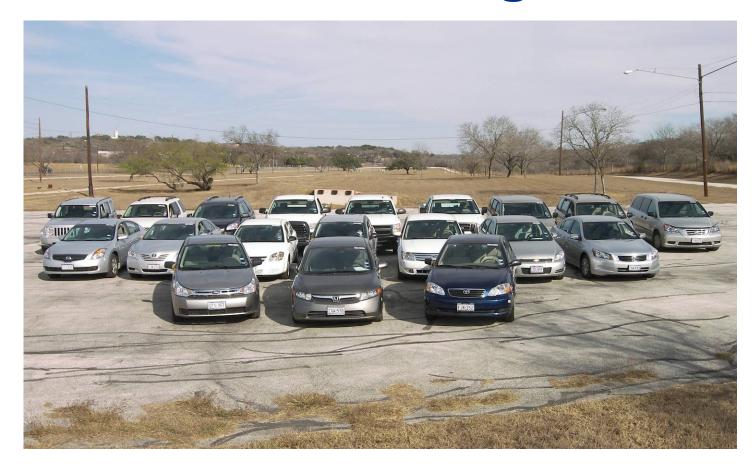
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NA

SE4

# Task V2: EPAct Program







## V2 - Specific Objective/Overview of Tasks

 Objective: Establish effects of RVP,T50,T90, aromatic content and EtOH levels on exhaust emissions from new Tier 2 and in-use vehicles

#### Tasks include

- Testing 19 new Tier 2 vehicles and 3 high mileage/emitter vehicles
- Test fuel matrix of 31 fuels (including 1 E85 fuel)
- Species measured: Regulated emissions, CO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>,
   VOCs, ethanol, carbonyl compounds
- VOCs include gaseous and semi-volatile organic (SVOC) compounds
- N<sub>2</sub>O, NH<sub>3</sub> and HCN by FTIR
- Some PM, PM number and size, and SVOC speciation

# **V2 Program Status**

- Test program development has been completed with addition of E20 fuels in fuels matrix.
- EPA contract for Phases 1 and 2 in place with SwRI<sup>®</sup>; NREL subcontract for fuel blending in place; NREL Phase 1 and 2 subcontract in place; NREL issued RFP for Phase 3 on March 5, 2009.
- Fuel blending began in February 2008; significant challenges have been faced for blending; problems solved.
- 2008 model year vehicle recruitment completed; 3 high mileage/high emitter vehicles not recruited yet.
- Phase 1 testing (75°F) began in April 2008 and completed in August; Phase 2 testing (50°F) completed in January 2009.
- Phase 3 testing (all vehicles with 28 fuels at 75°F began in March 2009.

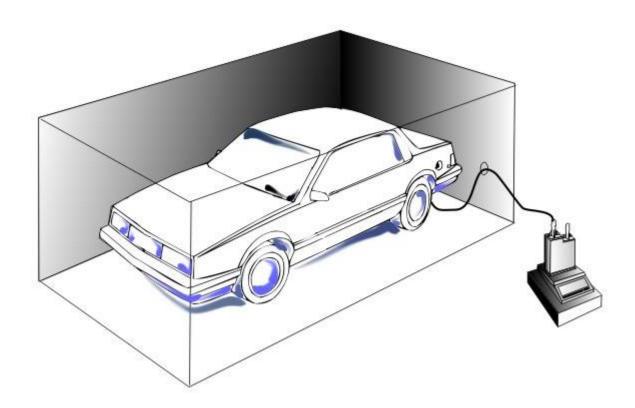
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## **Vehicle Evaporative Emissions**

#### V3: Evaporative Emissions (DOE, EPA, CRC)

- 16 Vehicles / 6 Fuels (E0, E10, E20)
- Initial phase complete, report expected 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr 2009
- 2<sup>nd</sup> phase started Oct 2008, expect report March 2010
- Static Permeation, Running Loss Permeation



**Task Summary** 

**DOE** Lead

**ORNL/NREL** 

**NREL** 

**NREL** 

**ORNL** 

**NREL** 

**NREL** 

ORNL

ORNL

NA

NA

**NREL** 

**ORNL/NREL** 

ORNL

NA

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Motorcycles, marine, ATVs, Snowmobiles

engines, 4 fuels)

engines to full life)

SNRE emissions and temperature (quick-look, in-house ORNL and NREL, 6

SNRE Full Useful Life Emissions and Durability (22 engines, 4 fuels, 17

**SNRE Class II engine Full Useful Life Emissions and Durability** 

SE1

SE2

SE3

SE4

## Vehicle Driveability / Operability

# V5: Cold Start and Driveability (DOE and CRC) - 6 Vehicles

- Low Temp, Class 1 & 2 E0, E15, E20. Match Blends
- Report issued October 2008
  - No temperature effect noted on driveability with gasoline
  - Driveability with ethanol blends showed a marginally significant temperature effect
- High Temp / High Altitude testing (Class 1) planned for summer 2009
- "Official" driveability using trained raters

#### V11: RIT Vehicle Fleet Study

- 10 Vehicles / 2 Fuels (E0, E20),
   Splash Blends
- Larger fleet study in planning stages
- NREL analyzing data: driveability, maintenance costs, fuel economy





# **Task Summary**

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# **V4 Project Status**

- Vehicle emissions testing and aging underway at SwRI<sup>®</sup> (with CRC)
  - Aging on mileage accumulation dynamometers
  - 16 vehicles purchased and under test
    - 2006-2008 model year
  - Additional vehicles TBD
- Parallel contracts starting
  - TRC
    - Aging on track
    - 8 new 2009 vehicles
    - 8 additional vehicles TBD
  - ETC
    - Mileage accumulation dynamometers
    - 8 new 2009 vehicles
    - 8 additional vehicles TBD









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## **Fuel System Materials Compatibility**

#### V6: Fuel System Materials Compatibility (DOE and CRC)

- 3 Fuels: E0, E10, and E20-aggressive
- Testing underway full results expected by January 2010
- Fuel system component, sub-system and system evaluation





**Photos courtesy of CRC** 

#### **V7: Vehicle Materials Compatibility**

Review of MN / RFA reports

#### **V8: Fuel Dispenser Materials Compatibility**

- Collaboration with UL
- More detail to follow

# **V8 - Materials Compatibility Studies**

- Dispenser component tests summer/fall 2007 with UL
  - UL ready to take applications for E85 pump certification
- Stir tank apparatus constructed for elastomer and metal-based coupon or component studies
  - More fundamental materials studies
  - Dynamic test (stir tank)
  - Temperature control (up to 60°C)
  - Coupons periodically removed for analysis
  - Studies currently underway
  - Apparatus available for evaluation of automotive or SNRE materials









# Metals and Elastomers under investigation:

#### **Metals and Alloys**

Nickel Stainless steel

Bronze Brass

Terne metal mild steel

Aluminum mild steel (galvanized)

#### **Elastomers**

Viton A401C Dyneon FE 5620
Viton B601C Dyneon FE 5840
Viton GF-600S Dyneon FPO 3741
Viton GFLT-S Dyneon LFTE 6400

Goodyear NBR 559N (nitrile)

Currently used on many standard gasoline dispenser hoses



# Task Summary Team Developed List of 15 projects in Summer 2007 Vehicle Task Description

Motorcycles, marine, ATVs, Snowmobiles

SE4

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## **Small Non-Road Engines (SNRE)** (Lawn and garden equipment, Generator Sets)

#### SE1: Emissions and Exhaust Temperature Pilot Study (6 engines)

- 6 Engine Families / 4 Fuels (E0, E10, E15, E20)
- Reported to EPA in October 2007
- Published results in Mid-Level Blends Report 1 (October 2008)

#### **SE2:** Full Useful Life Emissions and Durability

- 17 engines aged to full life / 4 Fuels (E0, E10, E15, E20)
- Reported in Mid-Level Blends Report 1 (October 2008)





## **SE1/SE2 Small Engine Test Results Summary:**

## Emissions changes with increasing ethanol

- NOx emissions increase
- HC and CO emissions decrease
- Results were expected due to leaner operation with open-loop engines

### Temperatures

- Exhaust and component temperatures increased
- No catastrophic failures due to ethanol
- Multi-cylinder engines not tested to full life. May be more sensitive to higher levels of ethanol

## Operability

- Increased ethanol caused clutch engagement at idle on tested commercial line trimmers (due to higher idle speed), a potential safety concern
- Increased idle speed due to leaner operation
- Carburetor adjustment was able to eliminate the problem on these engines

Near-term focus on partial waiver for newer vehicles has deferred additional SNRE and other non-automotive work

### **Milestones**

#### August 2007

 ORNL issued Literature Review on Technical Issues of E20 Fueling on Legacy Engines

#### October 2008:

ORNL/NREL issued Report 1 on Vehicle and Small Engine Results

#### October 2008:

 CRC Report #652 on driveability issued (co-funded by DOE). Report available to public on CRC website.

#### **January 28, 2009:**

 DOE, labs, and equipment manufacturers participated in second meeting of API-organized 'Coordination Committee on Intermediate Ethanol Blends R&D' (most recent of several such meetings)

#### February 2009:

 NREL/ORNL issued Update to Report 1 to include results from 3 additional vehicles (vehicles were still under test when October report published)

## **Future Work**

- Complete Full Useful Life Vehicle Durability Study (V4) on 48 vehicles by September 2010
- Complete Phase 3 of Vehicles emissions study (V2) with EPA (January 2010)
- Complete high-temperature, high-altitude driveability study by September 2009 (V5)
- Complete 16 Vehicle evaporative emissions study (V3) by March 2010
- Complete vehicle materials studies with CRC (V6) January 2010
- Continue to work with UL, EPA, CRC and other industry stakeholders to execute test programs underway and define additional studies

# **Summary**

#### Relevance

- DOE, NREL, and ORNL Team working to establish feasibility of Midlevel Ethanol Blends.
- Mid-level blends seen as key to compliance with EISA
- Approach
  - Multiple resources utilized in parallel to conduct massive test program
  - Collaborating with government and industry stakeholders
- Technical Accomplishments
  - Published Lit. Review, results of vehicle and small engine tests, driveability study
  - Initiated multiple parallel projects at several test sites
- Technical Challenges
  - EPA will decide legality of E15/E20
  - Challenge is to produce adequate volume of quality data in appropriate time frame
    - DOE, EPA, and industry resources are being applied to meet this challenge
- Technology transfer and future work
  - Working closely with industry stakeholders and EPA to define and execute program