

Biofuels Market Opportunities

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Influencing Consumers Follow the money





Consumers Focused on \$

January 2014 Consumer Survey:

- 2/3 of consumers shop by price
- 2/3 will go out of their way to save 5 cpg

To save 5 cpg, consumers would	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Potential Defections
Pay with debit card	49%	29%	78%
Pay with cash	44%	32%	76%
Turn left across busy street	33%	34%	67%
Drive 5 minutes out of the way	26%	40%	66%
Drive 10 minutes out of the way	14%	25%	39%



Consumers Interests *What do they tell us?*

(Fuels Institute Survey April 2014)



What Matters to Car Buyers

• 48% of consumers likely to buy car in 3 years





E15 Findings

- 78% of respondents drive 2001 or newer vehicle
- 20% somewhat/very familiar with E15
- 25% chose correct definition of E15–
 60% "don't know"
- 8% said E15 was allowed for their vehicle
 - 68% answered "don't know/unsure"
- Of those with 2001+ vehicles
 - 48% would consider E15 at a price = gasoline
 - Convert 28% of rest at 5 cpg discount



E85 Findings

- 6% own FFVs, 21% don't know
- 27% somewhat/very familiar with E85
- Of those who have FFVs
 - 43% have purchased E85
 - 58% buy E85 more often than gasoline
 - 59% said E85 was more expensive or same price as gasoline
 - 61% who purchase E85 more often are "very satisfied"
 - 73% more likely to buy E85 if more available in market



How Do You Increase E85 Sales?

Availability & Price



FFV Registration Forecast



In 2012, EIA reports 153 million gallons of E85 consumed by 11.4 million vehicles. This averages to 13.4 gallons per vehicle per year – less than one fill-up.



E85 Potential Market

Sales if FFVs Fueled with E85 X% of the Time



At 5% refuel rate = 4x EIA reported 2014 volume



E85 Stations

E85 Station Count





% Stations Selling E85



The Association for Convenience & Fuel Retailing

Source: Fuels Institute



E85 – FFV Density

Vehicle-Station Density





% Price Differential

Monthly Average % vs Volume



Source: Minnesota Dept of Commerce



\$ Price Differential

Monthly Average \$ vs Volume



Source: Minnesota Dept of Commerce



E85 Profitability

E85 and Regular Retail Margins



Source: NACS-CSX



Conclusion

- Retailers have hurdles to overcome
 - Only consumer demand will prompt action
- Must overcome negative consumer education campaign on E15 – Fear is hard to remove
- E85 price differential may not need to compensate for mpg deficit
- Stations should strategically locate near FFVs
- Consumer demand for FFVs/E85 essential to keep FFV production alive after credit expires



Thank you.

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