

BIOETHANOL LEVERAGING A REVITALISED PETROL MARKET

Paris, 26 January 2017 – With the petrol market enjoying brisk growth, the bioethanol industry has just released its annual results today, marking record performances by SP95-E10 and Superethanol-E85, and the arrival of ED95.

- SP95-E10 looks set to take the lead as France's top-selling petrol, ahead of SP95, with a 35.5% market share in 2016.
- Superethanol-E85 boasts buoyant growth in terms of volume, with nearly 100 million litres consumed in 2016, as well as a growing distribution network of 871 petrol stations by end 2016.
- The fuel ED95 was introduced onto the market. This new, renewable fuel containing 95% bioethanol for buses and HGVs, is further expanding the use of fuel with bioethanol content.

SP95-E10 SOON TO BECOME FRANCE'S TOP-SELLING PETROL

Against the backdrop of a rebound in petrol consumption in 2016 (up 2.7% after a 40% drop between 2004 and 2014), SP95-E10's market share rose by 2.3 points in 2016 to 35.5%.

By December 2016, its share had practically grown to 38%, to the point of seriously challenging SP95 which shrank to 40%.

SP95-E10 had already gained a leading position in four major regions in mainland France (Ile-de-France, PACA, Pays de la Loire, Hauts-de-France) as of December 2016.

Key figures for SP95-E10 in 2016

- 35.5% market share, i.e. an extra 2.3 points over 2015, nearly 3.5 billion litres of SP95-E10 consumed
 - 5,500 petrol stations by end 2016, i.e. 60% of major petrol stations, 230 petrol stations more than in 2015, mainly in mass retail.
- 97% of petrol-powered vehicles on the roads are compatible (as opposed to 65% in 2009)

In October 2016, stakeholders in the automotive and fuel industries joined forces in the E10 Charter initiative to better inform motorists as to the capacity of vehicles (cars and motorcycles) to run on SP95-E10. With its growing distribution network and more competitive price tag, SP95-E10 looks set to become the nation's favourite in 2017.

SUPERETHANOL-E85: ALL LIGHTS ARE GREEN

Nearly 100 million litres of Superethanol-E85 were distributed by a network of over 870 petrol stations in 2016. This fuel has demonstrated sharp growth with volumes rising by 11% in the past year, double the growth in 2015.

Key figures for Superethanol-E85 in 2016

- Consumption of 96 million litres, i.e. 1% of the petrol market.
- A distribution network still growing briskly:
 - o 871 petrol stations (an extra 144 in 2016, that's a rate of three a week),
 - o including: Occitanie: 144 petrol stations; PACA: 103; Hauts de France: 98; Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes: 96; Ile-de-France: 82; New Aquitaine: 81.
- Over 1,000 flex-fuel cars sold in 2016
- A new version of the "Mes stations E85" application detailing the geo-location of petrol stations selling E85 and their prices.

Lastly, the publication of a decree outlining the approval procedure for Superethanol-E85 conversion kits and fitters has been scheduled for mid-April 2017. This will set forth a set of safe, well-defined regulations for motorists to be able to convert their petrol-powered vehicles.

ED95: A NEW BIOETHANOL FUEL TO REDUCE THE CARBON FOOTPRINT IN PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND HAULAGE

In 2016, a new fuel catering to captive fleets of buses and HGVs was introduced: ED95. Containing 95% bioethanol and 5% additive, it caters to specific engines that only run on this fuel.

ED95, for clean taxation, acknowledged by the French law governing the energy transition

The French budget was voted in late 2016, setting forth tax breaks for this fuel (specific taxation of 4.4 cents a litre, eligibility for pollution tax cuts and a 40% discount on tax for vehicles purchased in 2017). It has been categorised as a low-emissions fuel in the decrees to apply the French law governing the energy transition for eco-friendly growth. Vehicles running on ED95 have thus been heralded as a new, renewable, sustainable and competitive solution for public transport and haulage professionals.

Considerable environmental benefits

ED95 helps reduce net CO₂ emissions by 50% to 90% and particle emissions by over 70%. Pioneered at COP21 by the Mayor of Paris with the "Bus for the climate", this technology is now being marketed by its manufacturer, Scania, already touted to replace the fleets of several public authorities and haulage firms.

PERSPECTIVES FOR 2017

Fuels containing bioethanol are thus expected to continue growing in popularity in 2017, especially with the target for renewable energy in petrol being increased from 7% to 7.5% as voted by the French Parliament in late 2016, which should incite better availability. Moreover, the new possibility of deducting VAT from petrol at 80%, to be phased in over a 5-year period, will incite firms to use petrol-powered vehicles more, depending on their needs, which in turn will also drive an increase in demand.

However, this highly positive dynamic must not be jeopardised by European policy regarding energy and the climate. The new directive on renewable energy slated for 2020 and onwards as presented by the European Commission in late 2016 needs to be amended considerably by the Council and Parliament, as was the text drawn up in September 2015, for the European Union to forge ahead with energy transition, especially in public transport, and to honour the commitments agreed upon at the Paris climate conference (COP21) for 2030.

Bioethanol: an industry of French excellence

In France, bioethanol is manufactured from beet sugar, cereal starch and the residues from processing these.

- Over 50,000 farmers are involved every year,
- 300,000 hectares (1% of farmland) supplying both fuel and food
- 16 production sites including five recent, state-of-the-art industrial plants
- 9,000 direct, indirect and induced jobs.

Bioethanol made in France equates to 500,000 vehicles that don't emit any CO₂

France is the European leader in bioethanol production with 12 million hectolitres, 30% of which is exported within the EU.

The top three fuels produced by the bioethanol industry: instant, affordable, sustainable solutions

1. SP95-E10: an economic and ecological asset for France

SP95-E10 is petrol containing up to 10% bioethanol, sold at an average of 4 to 5 cents* cheaper than SP95 at the same petrol station and even cheaper than SP98.

Filling your tank with 50 litres of SP95-E10 saves nearly €1.50, i.e. about €70 ** a year. SP95-E10 is taxed at a rate of 2.4 cents fuel tax and VAT less than SP95 because it contains more ethanol*** and is thus more eco-friendly: French bioethanol is manufactured exclusively from plant matter and the residues from processing it and cuts CO₂ emission by over 50% compared to petrol.

SP95-E10 is available over 5,500 petrol stations.

It is compatible with 97% of petrol-powered vehicles on the roads today (you can check on www.E10.fr).

* Source www.prix-carburants.gouv.fr / ** at a rate of 50 litres a week.

*** SP95-E10 contains 1/3 more ethanol, either pure or in a derivative, than SP95

2. Superethanol-E85: driving pollution and cost down!

Superethanol-E85 is sold at an average sale price of €0.69 *a litre, affording net savings of over 40 cents compared to SP95 given respective consumption per kilometre.

Practically speaking, this translates into yearly average savings of €500.

Available in over 870 petrol stations across France, *easy to find thanks to the "Mes stations E85" app*, Superethanol-E85 is used in flex-fuel vehicles running on all types of petrol in the same tank.

* Source www.prix-carburants.gouv.fr

3. ED95: the new solution for road transport professionals

Made with 95% bioethanol and 5% cetane-improver additive (for combustion engines with spark ignition), this fuel mainly caters to buses and coaches, as well as HGVs.

Cutting CO₂ emissions by over 50% compared to diesel fuel, and particle emissions by over 70%, the use of ED95 has been authorised in France since the decree of 19/1/2016.

Find out more : www.bioethanolcarburant.com

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