



## ETHANOL FUEL GRADES FACT SHEET

*“As more and more E85 fuel stations become available all across America, consumers should purchase a car for the future, such as a flex-fuel vehicle. Purchase the vehicle and the fuel will come.”*

*Tom Slunecka, Executive Director, EPIC*

### ETHANOL IS AVAILABLE IN THE U.S. IN SEVERAL BLENDS:

Ethanol is an oxygenate, meaning it adds oxygen to fuel thus making it burn cleaner. Enriching gasoline with ethanol helps to reduce greenhouse gases and harmful tailpipe emissions. Ethanol is biodegradable and does not pollute groundwater.

#### E10

- E10 is the term for motor fuel containing 10% ethanol and 90% unleaded gasoline. E10 has an approximate octane rating of 91.
- All major auto manufacturers selling cars in the United States approve fuels enriched with up to 10% ethanol. Many manufacturers even *recommend* ethanol for its clean-burning benefits.

#### E85

- E85 is the term for motor fuel containing 85% ethanol and 15% unleaded gasoline. E85 has an approximate octane rating of 105.
- E85 typically is priced to be competitive with 87-octane gasoline. E85 is usually less expensive than regular unleaded fuel.



- Flex-Fuel Vehicles (FFVs) allow drivers to use any combination of gasoline or ethanol ranging from 100% unleaded gasoline to 85% ethanol-enriched fuel. A driver can make fueling choices based on the availability of E10 and E85 at the pump.
- Today, there are approximately 6 million E85-compatible FFVs in use in the United States. Consumers should check their vehicle's owner's manual or gas cap to determine if it can be fueled with E85. Consumers may visit [www.drivingethanol.org](http://www.drivingethanol.org) to determine if their vehicle is an FFV.

## E100

- E100 is the term for 100 percent fuel-grade ethanol. In 2007, the Indy Racing League IndyCar<sup>®</sup> Series switched to 100% percent fuel-grade ethanol in its racecars.
- E100 has an approximate octane rating of 113.

## WHAT TO LOOK FOR AT THE PUMP

- Look for a sticker on the pump with the words “ethanol,” “ethanol-enriched” fuel, “E10” or “E85.”
- If consumers don’t see any visible labeling at the pump, ask the retailer if ethanol is available. Some states don’t require any labeling at the pump.



*“More and more consumers are seeking out ethanol blends. Therefore, we have launched a voluntary branding program with the goal that all 50 states will adopt our brand label. This will ensure that the ethanol brand will be consistent from pump to pump and from city to city.”*

*Robert White, Director of Operations, EPIC*