

DON Integration of Alternative Fuels (Good News):

In FY2005 the Department of the Navy made good progress in meeting AFV mandates from EPOA92, EPOA05, and Executive Order 13149. The Department was also recognized twice in FY2005 for its proactive efforts to utilize alternative fuels. The Department was named winner of the National Biodiesel Board's National Energy Security Award and the US Marine Corps won a White House Closing the Circle Award for meeting Executive Order 13149 requirements three years earlier than required. The Navy greatly exceeded the EPOA92 mandate for 75% of light duty vehicle acquisitions in MSAs to be AFVs, by acquiring 280%. This is the third year in a row the Navy has exceeded this mandate. The Navy also met the fuel efficiency mandate of increasing the fuel efficiency of its vehicle acquisitions by 3 miles per gallon. Furthermore, there is solid progress being made in meeting the petroleum fuel reduction requirement of 20% from the FY99 baseline by reaching 14.9% by the end of FY05 (which is about a 2 million gallon fuel reduction); this falls short of the requirement by about 5%, but is a significant step toward meeting the requirement; especially in light of the fact that the tempo of most motor vehicle operations has increased since September 11, 2001. In response to a January 2005 memorandum from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment), the Navy is taking additional steps to improve the fuel reduction number for FY06 by installing more fuel tanks for B20 (20% biodiesel, 80% diesel fuel mixture) and installing fuel system catalysts on many of its light, medium and heavy duty vehicles and heavy equipment to further improve the fuel efficiency. The main obstacle in making significant fuel reduction improvements is the lack of E85 (85% ethanol, 15% gasoline) fuel infrastructure, either on board Navy installations or in communities nearby. The Navy has close to 7,000 vehicles capable of operating on E85, so once fuel infrastructure is obtained, the potential for meeting/exceeding the fuel reduction requirement will increase significantly.