

# Maintaining Biodiesel Quality Throughout the Supply Chain



## 1 Before Receiving Product

- ▶ Specify the respective ASTM certification for the fuel being purchased
- ▶ Consider purchasing from a BQ-9000 certified marketer<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ Use of a fuel stabilizer is recommended for storing fuel beyond six months
- ▶ Discuss your fuel's application and cold flow expectations with your supplier
- ▶ Ensure storage tanks are clean and dry



## 2 Upon Receipt of the Product

- ▶ Request a Bill of Lading or Certificate of Analysis on fuel delivery
- ▶ Stick storage tanks with paste, before and after delivery, for water
- ▶ Perform ASTM haze rating evaluation to identify water and sediment
- ▶ Retain two quart samples of your delivery for analysis should problems arise



## 3 Blending & Testing Strategies

- ▶ Be sure D975 diesel, D396 heating oil and D6751 biodiesel meet their independent specifications prior to blending
- ▶ Blends must be clear in appearance and free of water and sediment
- ▶ B100 should be stored and blended at 15F above cloud point<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ Adhere to BQ-9000 quality protocols—for more details, [www.bq-9000.org](http://www.bq-9000.org)



## 4 Storage & Dispenser Strategies

- ▶ Fuel tanks should be kept as full as possible to minimize water contamination
- ▶ Monitor hoses, fills, vents and gaskets for leaks
- ▶ Check tanks monthly for water by obtaining a tank bottom sample, remove water when required to prevent microbial contamination
- ▶ Handle all blends of biodiesel as you would any diesel or heating oil<sup>2</sup>



## 5 If Problems Occur...

- ▶ Contact your supplier, report your problem and ask for their assistance
- ▶ Share your retained samples with your supplier for analysis
- ▶ If an acceptable resolution is not reached, contact the National Biodiesel Troubleshooting Hotline (800-929-3437)



### ASTM Specs

B100 (Neat biodiesel)

▶ ASTM D6751

Diesel Fuel

▶ ASTM D975

Heating Oil

▶ ASTM D396

Biodiesel Blends  
6-20%

▶ ASTM D7467

Blends 5% or under  
▶ D396 & D975

### Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> If purchasing B100, consider a BQ-9000 Producer

<sup>2</sup> B100 "Neat", biodiesel handling requires knowledge of cloud point