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
   - 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 15°F above cloud point
   - Adhere to BQ-9000 quality protocols—for more details, 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

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)

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**ASTM Spec:**

- 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**

1. If purchasing B100, consider a BQ-9000 Producer
2. B100 “Neat”, biodiesel handling requires knowledge of cloud point