



NEWS

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Indiana Lands its First Soy Biodiesel Plant

Integrity Biofuels to produce 10 million gallons of soy biodiesel annually

MORRISTOWN, Ind. – Indiana will soon have its first soy biodiesel production facility, a key step in helping Hoosiers reduce their dependency on foreign oil, protect the environment and build stronger demand for U.S. soybeans.

Morristown, a rural east central Indiana community, will be home to the U.S. ag industry's new found gem. Integrity selected this Shelby County town because it is located near Bunge North America's Morristown facility, one of eight soybean processing plants in the state.

“As we looked at potential production facility sites throughout the Midwest, we found a match in Morristown,” said Integrity Biofuels CEO Charles Whittington. “In this site, we had access to an adequate supply of high-quality refined soybean oil, which is a key ingredient to soy biodiesel production. We also found in Morristown a Chamber of Commerce and a town board that welcomed our renewable fuel company with community support, an infrastructure critical for long-term business success, and valued tax incentives.”

Integrity Biofuels has purchased an existing building/warehouse and expects to be in the business of selling cleaner-burning, American-made fuel by early 2006, said Whittington, a Hoosier native. Indiana's first biodiesel production facility will employ five to seven workers and produce 10 million gallons of soy biodiesel annually though company officials are already making plans to grow annual production beyond the company's initial business year. In its first year of production, Integrity Biofuels will utilize 6.7 million bushels of Hoosier soybeans.

State support was also a critical factor in site selection.

“We give a lot of credit to Indiana legislators for their vision to attract business to the state,” stated Integrity Biofuels Vice President John Whittington. Earlier this year, Governor Mitch Daniels signed legislation allowing up to \$20 million in tax incentives for biodiesel, blended biodiesel and ethanol production.

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“The Indiana State Department of Agriculture, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture are helping Hoosier companies, like ours, be part of an exciting and historical worldwide renewable fuels movement that will significantly diversify the energy portfolio of this country,” added Whittington.

The demand for biodiesel-blended fuels has grown substantially in the past year from both a state and national perspective. According to the Indiana Soybean Board, Americans demanded 25 million gallons of biodiesel in 2004. Estimates are that in 2005 American diesel owners will purchase a record 125 million gallons of biodiesel.

Within the state borders, Hoosiers purchased nearly 400,000 gallons of biodiesel last year. In 2005, the Indiana Soybean Board estimates that Hoosier diesel owners will demand close to 4 million gallons of pure biodiesel.

The biodiesel offered to Indiana distillate customers today is primarily produced in Ohio or Iowa, where two of the nation’s 35 biodiesel production facilities exist. The Indiana Soybean Board encourages Hoosiers diesel owners to look for retail fuel stations that carry biodiesel-blended fuels. For a complete list of Indiana’s 66 fuel retailers carrying biodiesel-blended fuels, visit www.indianasoybeanboard.com.

Biodiesel, produced from renewable fats and oils such as soybean oil, works in any diesel engine with few or no modifications. It offers enhanced lubricity and cetane, plus similar horsepower and torque when compared to petroleum diesel. Over 500 major fleets use biodiesel nationwide, such as the National Park Service, state departments of transportation and the military.

The use of biodiesel yields significant environmental benefits, such as a reduction in emissions of particulate matter, unburned hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide compared to petroleum diesel, and it significantly reduces emissions of lifecycle CO₂.

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