



*e-Refinery Group*

# COMPLY™ Software

Volume 5, Issue 1

## Newsletter

Fall 2004

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### REGULATORY NEWS

#### MTBE Restrictions

The EPA requires that oxygen be added to gasoline classified as federal reformulated gasoline (RFG). There are currently two environmentally and economically viable oxygenates for this task: MTBE and ethanol. Several states have either introduced restrictions on the use of MTBE in gasoline or have banned it altogether due to concerns regarding MTBE in groundwater. As of mid-2004, 18 states have restrictions on the use of MTBE.

Even with these state restrictions on the use of MTBE the EPA's oxygen mandate remains in effect for RFG – essentially mandating the use of ethanol in these areas to meet the Federal oxygen requirement for RFG. Complicating the problem even further is the likelihood that MTBE will be banned across the entire U.S. within the next several years. As gasoline blending with ethanol becomes the only viable way to make RFG it will become imperative to learn how to effectively blend with ethanol taking into account the oxygenate's unique properties such as vapor pressure and how to deal with end product volume loss versus using MTBE.

#### Federal Oxygen Mandate for RFG (Phase II Complex Model):

	<u>Average Election</u>	<u>Per-Gallon Election</u>
Standard	≥ 2.1 wt% oxygen	≥ 2.0 wt% oxygen
Per-Gallon Min.	≥ 1.5 wt% oxygen	N/A

#### MTBE state-by-state restrictions (as of June 2004):

Arizona	MTBE ban starting July 1, 2004
California	MTBE ban starting January 1, 2004
Colorado	MTBE ban started April 30, 2002
Connecticut	MTBE ban starting October 1, 2003 (delayed to Jan. 1, 2004)
Illinois	MTBE prohibited by July 2004
Indiana	MTBE limited to 0.5% by volume, starting July 23, 2004
Iowa	0.5% MTBE by volume cap, already in effect
Kansas	MTBE limited to 0.5% by volume, starting July 1, 2004
Kentucky	MTBE ban starting January 1, 2006
Maine	Law merely expresses state's "goal" to ban MTBE. "Goal" phase out of MTBE by January 1, 2003.
Michigan	MTBE prohibited by June 1, 2003
Minnesota	All ethers (MTBE, ETBE, TAME) limited to 1/3 of 1.0% by weight after July 1, 2000; after July 1, 2005, total ether ban
Missouri	MTBE limited to 0.5% by volume, starting July 1, 2005
Nebraska	MTBE limited to 1.0% by volume, starting July 13, 2000
New York	MTBE ban starting January 1, 2004
Ohio	MTBE ban starting July 1, 2005
S. Dakota	0.5% MTBE by volume cap, already in effect
Washington	MTBE ban starting December 31, 2003

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Additional Information:

For more information on state restrictions and other MTBE facts visit the EIA website:

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/steo/pub/special/mtbe.html>

**Georgia Low Sulfur/Low RVP Gasoline**

The propagation of regional fuel standards (commonly referred to as “boutique fuels”) is becoming a larger problem for refiners. State, local and federal fuel regulations cause problems in gasoline blending and fuel distribution. The EPA was concerned enough to issue a white paper on the topic entitled, “Study of Unique Gasoline Fuel Blends (“Boutique Fuels”), Effects on Fuel Supply and Distribution and Potential Improvements.” [EPA document number EPA420-P-01-004] Since this has been, and will continue to be, an area of great concern to refiners we thought we’d profile one of the more recent boutique fuel additions – Georgia low sulfur/low RVP gasoline. While this fuel was originally labeled “Atlanta” gasoline this designation is misleading as the fuel is now required in 45 counties within the state. The Georgia fuel standards dually constrain the sulfur and RVP levels of gasoline blends with refinery and downstream limits for both of these parameters.

Georgia Low Sulfur/Low RVP Gasoline Control Area:

Effective April 1, 2003 the gasoline rule applies in the following 45 county area within Georgia.

Banks	Coweta	Hall	Meriweather	Rockdale
Barrow	Dawson	Haralson	Monroe	Spalding
Bartow	DeKalb	Heard	Morgan	Troup
Butts	Douglas	Henry	Newton	Upson
Carroll	Fayette	Jackson	Oconee	Walton
Chattooga	Floyd	Jasper	Paulding	
Cherokee	Forsyth	Jones	Pickens	
Clarke	Fulton	Lamar	Pike	
Clayton	Gordon	Lumpkin	Polk	
Cobb	Gwinnett	Madison	Putnam	

Georgia Low Sulfur/Low RVP Gasoline Standards:

2004 and Beyond Georgia Low Sulfur/Low RVP Gasoline Compliance Requirements (as of the time of newsletter release)				
Product	Specification	Specification Effective Date	Downstream Limit	Downstream Effective Date
Sulfur				
Annual Avg	30 ppm	September 16, 2003	N/A	N/A
Per-Gallon Cap	150 ppm	September 16, 2003	175 ppm	January 1, 2004
Seasonal Per-Gallon Cap	80 ppm	June 1, 2004 – September 15, 2004	95 ppm	June 1, 2004 – September 15, 2004
RVP				
Seasonal Limit	7.0 psi	June 1, 2003	7.3 psi	June 1, 2003 – September 15, 2003

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **COMPLY e-group**

UOP hosts an e-group for the COMPLY software. Moderators of the group sign up members. Then any member of the group can post email messages for all other members of the group to read. This is a valuable way to ask questions on the regulations or the software.

### **COMPLY FAQ site**

UOP has an Internet FAQ (Frequently Asked Question) site for COMPLY software users. Each licensed COMPLY software site is eligible to receive a password and will be able to log onto the website and view these FAQs. Questions are grouped by topic (i.e. regulatory, software installation, etc.) and a search function has been incorporated so users can search by keyword.

## **CONTACTS**

Questions regarding the COMPLY software or U.S. regulatory fuels issues should be directed to the following personnel:

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