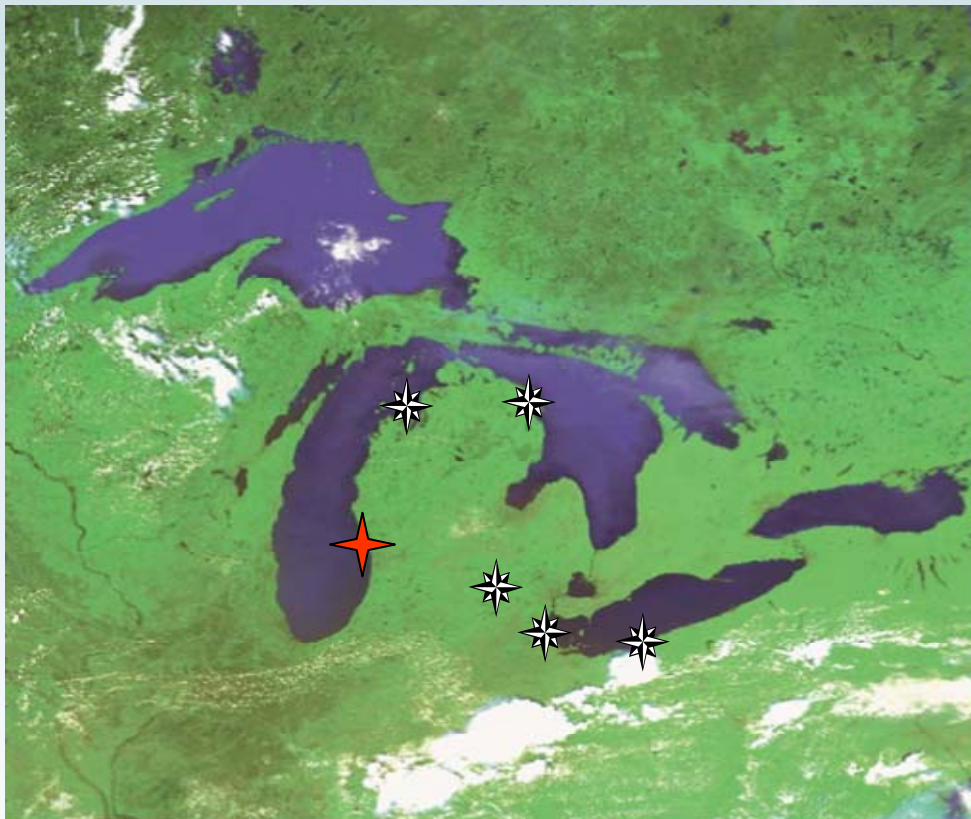


# Operational Experience Bio-Fuels and Lubricants



**Dennis Donahue**  
NOAA-GLERL  
Marine Superintendent



# NOAA - GLERL

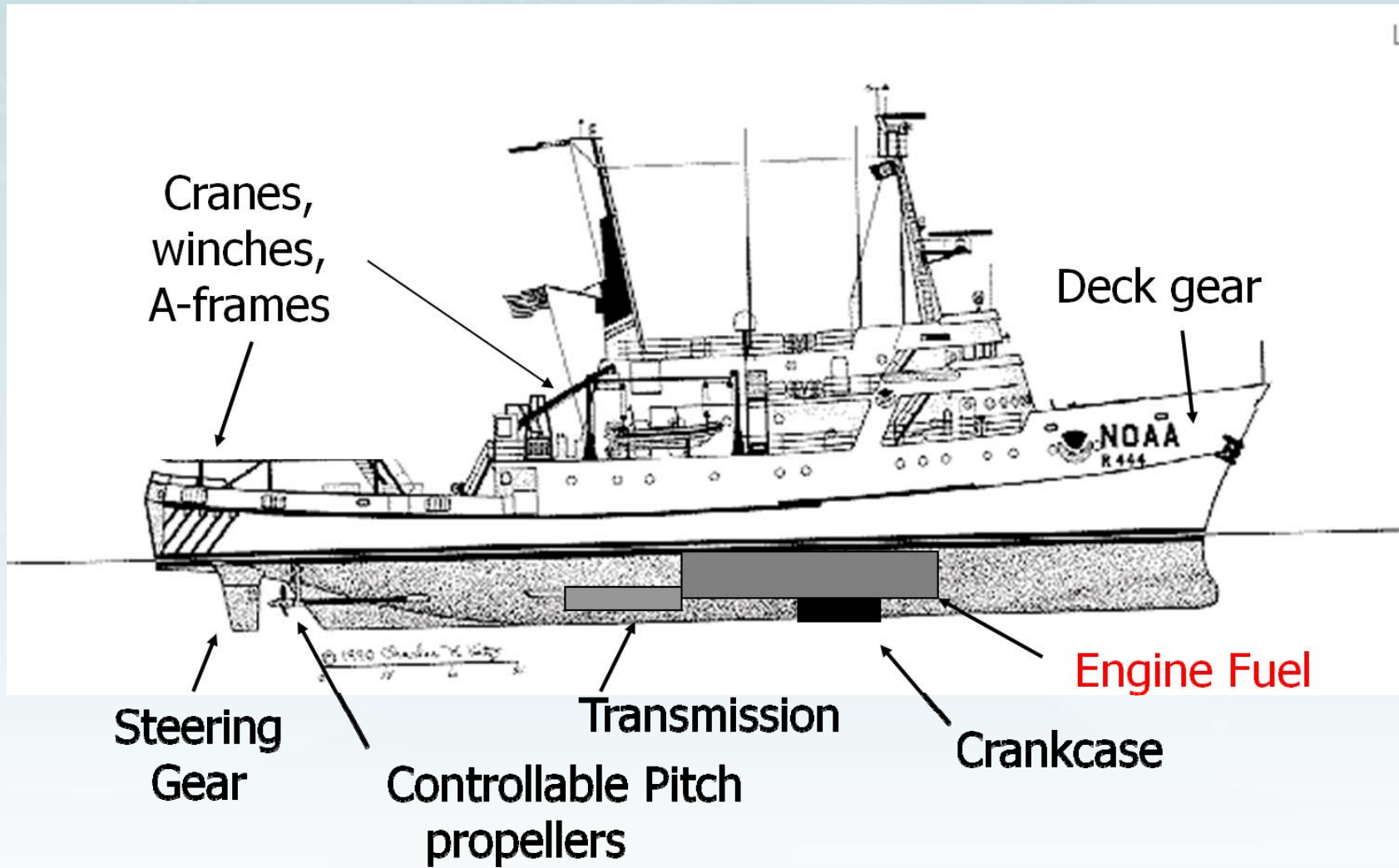
## Green Ship Initiative Focus Areas



- Alternative Fuels
- Provide Operational Test Platforms
- Platform Life Cycle
- Emissions
- Renewable Products
- Overboard Discharge
- Energy Efficiency
- Emerging Technologies
- Best Management Practices



# Bio-based Fuels, Oils and Lubricants



# B100 Biodiesel



INSIDE: SUSTAINABLE BIODIESEL STANDARDS ARE IN THE PIPELINE

June 2007

## BIODIESEL MAGAZINE

### Treading Lightly on the Great Lakes

Great Lakes Environmental Research  
Laboratory Vessels Use Biodiesel and Biobased,  
Petroleum-Free Mechanical Fluids

PLUS: Proposed Biodiesel Plant List: 2007



# Leadership

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory set a goal to minimize the use of petroleum products onboard its research ships and demonstrate the operational benefits of bio-products in marine applications. This project introduced soy biodiesel at 100% for ship propulsion and generators—a significant advancement in alternative diesel fuels that typically were based upon a 20% blend of soy oil with petroleum oil.

The project was then expanded to replace all petroleum lubricants, hydraulic, transmission, and motor oils with products formulated from renewable stock such as canola and soy oils. In August of 2005 the *Humn Explorer*, serving the National Marine Sanctuary at Thunder Bay, became the first U.S. research vessel to operate free of petroleum products, demonstrating NOAA's commitment to the marine environment.

**YOU HAVE  
the POWER™**

United States Department of Commerce  
Federal Energy Management Program

For more information on how you can get involved in the You Have the Power campaign, visit the FEMP Web site at [www.commerce.gov/femp](http://www.commerce.gov/femp).

**Office of the  
Federal Environmental Executive**  
*Promoting sustainable environmental stewardship throughout the federal government*



# B100 Operational Experience



11 years experience

LMFS – 160,000 gallons annually

Cost savings – 20 to 40%

OEM's – participate, validate

Crew assessment – “Non-issue”, “ Prefer B100”

Green Ship Working Group – 1M + gallons (B100) annually

Commercially viable – tug, research, fishing and tour-boat

2010-11 effort to transition expertise

- Federal Green Fleet Working Group (Non-tactical)
- MARAD
- Army Corps of Engineers



# Typical Biodiesel Issues



Cost

OEM Warranties

Power Reduction

Cold Flow Properties

Material Compatibility

Microbial Growth

Filter Plugging

Lube oil Dilution

Water Separation

Storage Stability

Terminology

Feedstock Variables

Tangible Benefits

Measurable Results

Logistics

Liability / Risk

Organizational Priorities

Social /Political Issues

Corporate Targets / Support



# Initiative Strategy



## Conventional Test Methodology

- **Stabilize** the process
- **Maintain** process parameters
- Introduce one variable (Fuel)
- Measure process response

**“Measure of Equivalency”**

## LMFS Test Methodology

- **Optimize** the process
- **Adjust** Process variables to reflect what is known about the test material
- **Monitor** process controls that could be impacted by unknown attributes
- **Measure** changes to output, process and effort
- **Readjust** based upon experience

**“Measure of Effort for Optimum Results”**

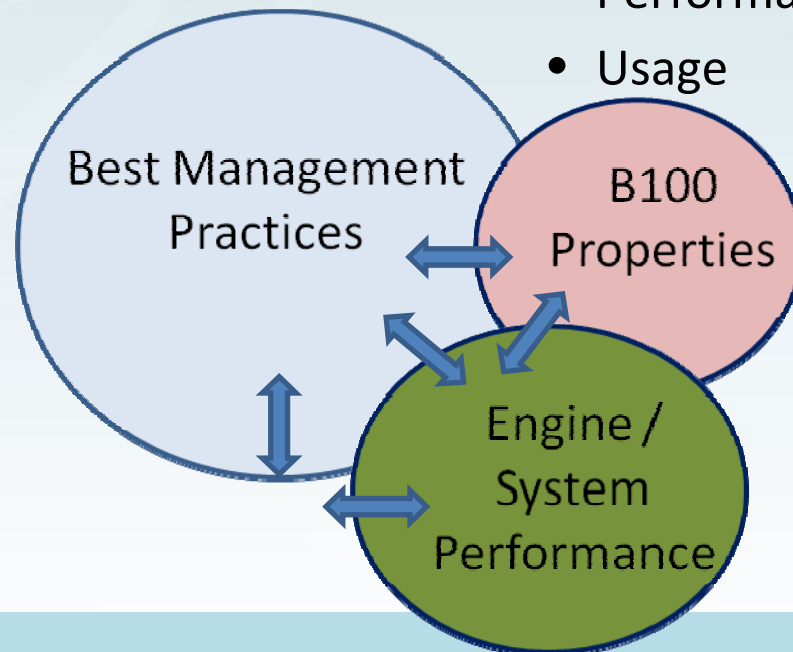


# Best Management Practices

- Fuel management
  - Inventory turns
  - Incoming QC
  - Storage conditions
  - Temperature control
- Material compatibility
- Filtration
  - Particulate
  - Water
  - Polishing
- Process
  - Pumps
  - Injectors
  - Temperature control

## – Measures

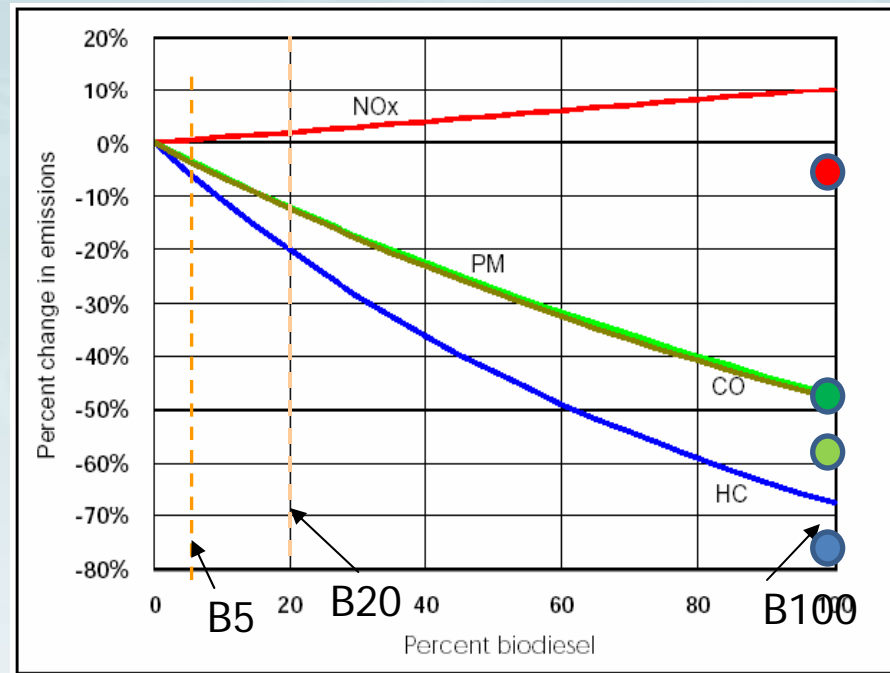
- Repair and maintenance
- Failure Analysis
- QA/QC
- Emissions
- Performance
- Usage





# B100 Biodiesel Advantages

- Lower Emissions
- Lower Environmental Impact
- Renewable Energy Source
- Improved Health and Safety
- ✓ Improved Engine Performance
- ✓ Reduced System Maintenance
- ✓ Lower Cost



# Typical Emissions Results



2005 Survey

Port /starboard full load tests – 4 vessels

Cummins 903, Detroit 12V71, Detroit 8-92, Cat 3508

Broad range in engine age, condition and time on B100

## **Averaged B100 Emissions Reductions as Compared to #2 Petroleum Diesel**

|                             |      |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Total Unburned Hydrocarbons | -77% |
| Carbon Monoxide             | -48% |
| Particulate Matter          | -59% |
| Nox                         | -7%  |
| Sulfates                    | -74% |
| PAH                         | -66% |



# Crew Exposure to Exhaust Plume



## Health and Safety

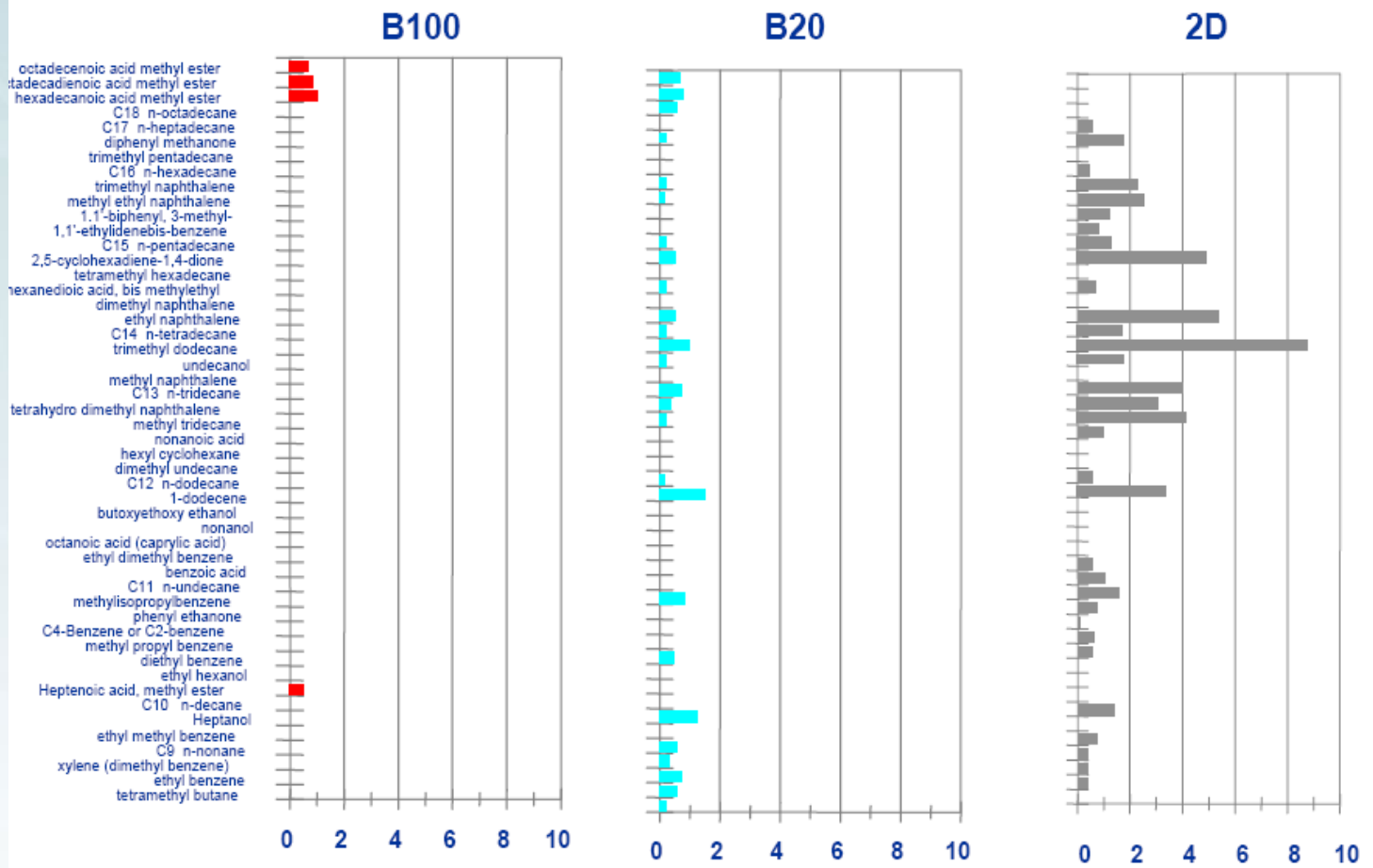
- Higher flash point (125F vs. 300F)
- Reduced carcinogens
- Less offensive odor – seasickness



# Crew Health



## Tier 1 Health Effect Data



Tier I Health Effects Data  
supplied by SWRI, 1997-8



# Fuel Comparison

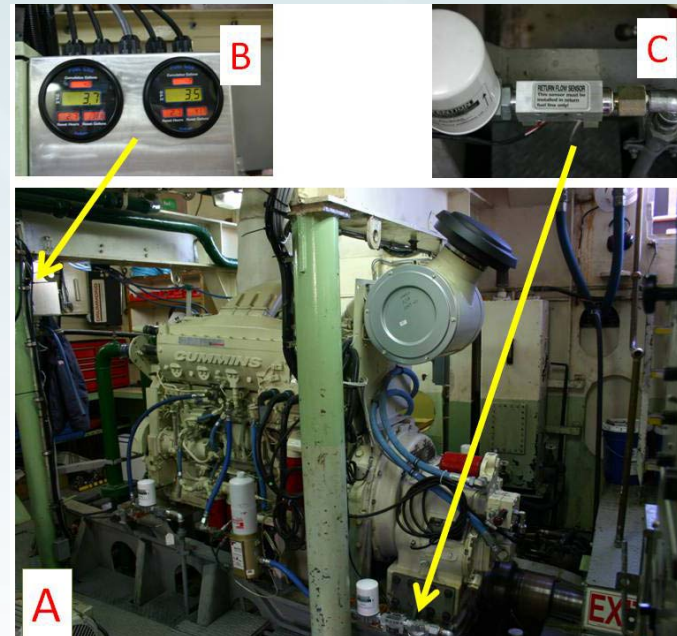
Quality Soy B100 meets or exceeds engine OEM specifications

- Higher Cetane (53 vs. 40)
- Significantly higher lubricity compared to ULSD (7500 vs. 1800)
- Higher viscosity (5.5 vs. 1.8) - better injector pressures
- Cleaner incoming and system fuel

System Requirements (fuel + process)

- Pour point – cold flow
- Water management
- Particle filtration
- Material compatibility

Need for long term engine data



# Filtration of Solids

## Best Management Practices



### Incoming QC

- Tanker filtration – 10 micron
- Water content
- Free glycerin

### Improve filtration

- Increase retention time (3x)
- Vacuum-type units
- Filter media selection
- Spent media analysis

### Temperature management

- Minimize thermal shock
- Fuel to fuel heat exchangers

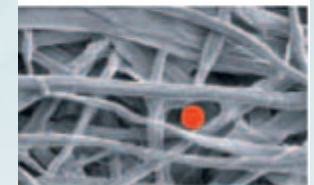
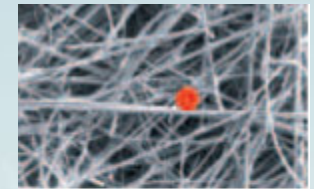
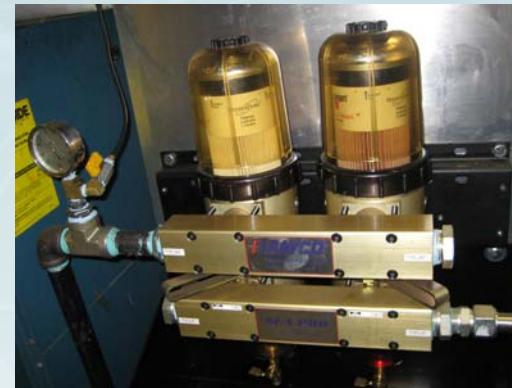
### Bacterial growth

- Maximize tank turns
- Minimize water

### System cleaning

- Varnish, wax coatings

## Cooperative R & D Projects



Equipment

Media



Measurements - Optics

# B100 Detergency



#2 Diesel  
4 Years

B100  
1 Tank Turn

B100  
3 Tank Turns

B100  
One year

Tank Bottom Samples



# Best Management Practices and B100

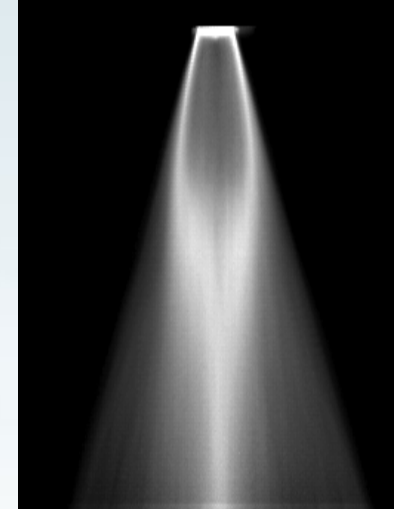
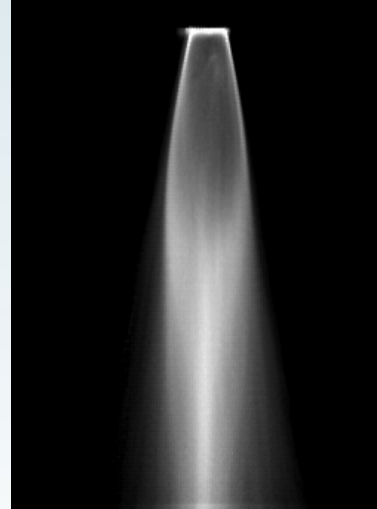
## Results

- 5 micron primary filters
- No secondary filters
- No manual tank cleaning at 5 years
- No injector replacement
- No fuel pump failures



## Monitoring / R & D

- OEM – injector replacement program
- Annual injector testing
- OEM – fuel pump evaluation program
- Component Failure Analysis
- Engine OEM's validate performance





# Winter Operations - Fuel Heaters



Maintain 70° F prior to filters

Heater R & D

- Electric / fuel
- Water jacket / fuel
- Return fuel / feed

Measurement R&D



# Material Compatibility



## System Approach

- Fuel system components
  - B100 will accelerate failing materials
- Focus on field repairs and materials
  - OEM failures are rare
- Elevate housekeeping and maintenance standards
- Review adjacent and support systems



## Industry Partners

- Allied industries
- Material processing plants



# Technology Transfer

## Green Ship Working Group - 2002



150 + Vessels

1M+ gallons annually

Equipment development

Shared expertise

Logistic support

Broad spectrum of vessels

- Government
- Research
- Passenger
- Fishing
- Tug / Transport
- Utility / dredge



# Technology Transfer

## Federal Green Fleet Working Group - 2010



Multi- agency

Shared interest in alternative fuels

Consolidate experience / resources

Establish cooperative projects

Establish protocols

Advance renewable technologies



### Army Corps of Engineers - 2011

- B100 Feasibility Study
- Package NOAA experience
- Emphasis on engine loading

### MARAD – 2011

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Biodiesel
- T-AGOS platform trials
- Emphasis on protocols



# Implementation Process



## 1. Education

- Benefits of Biodiesel
- Myths and Misinformation
- Similarities and Differences
- Areas of Concern
- Implementation Plan
- Monitoring Plan
- Response Plan
- Measures and conclusions

## 2. Plant Assessment

- Resources and personnel
- Tank
- Residual fuel condition
- Distribution
- Filtration
- Injection Pumps
- Engine – External condition
- Engine – Performance issues
- Exhaust measures

## 3. Implementation Plan

- Address mechanical issues / impact
- Consider process improvements /impact
- Biodiesel supplier evaluation
- Training and expectations
- Measures and alternatives

## 4. Trial

- Feedback Loop
- Measures
- Conclusions
- Next steps

## 5. Communication

- Feedback
  - Lessons Learned
  - Industry
  - Working Group
  - Partnerships



# NOAA → Army Corp of Engineers

## 2011 Technology Transfer Project



PATHFINDER – St. Louis



RACCOON – San Francisco



DB-5 – Washington D.C.



DONLON - Cleveland



# NOAA – Army Corp of Engineers

## 2011 Technology Transfer Project – B100



### Focus

Applied GLERL methodology

27,000 gallons

4 Locations

6 Month duration

Emissions testing

Engine load testing

Fuel usage monitoring

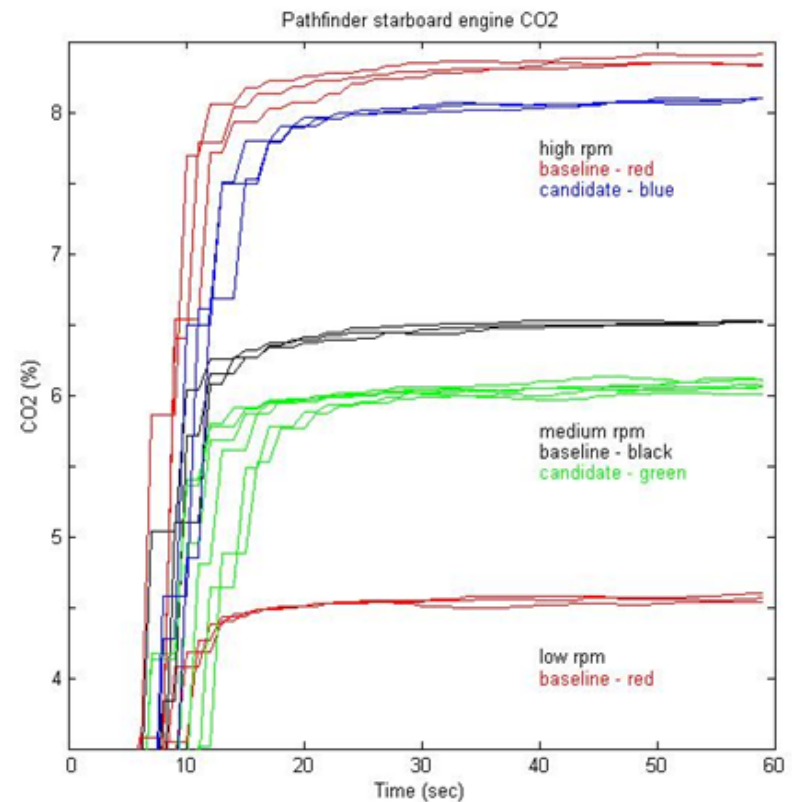
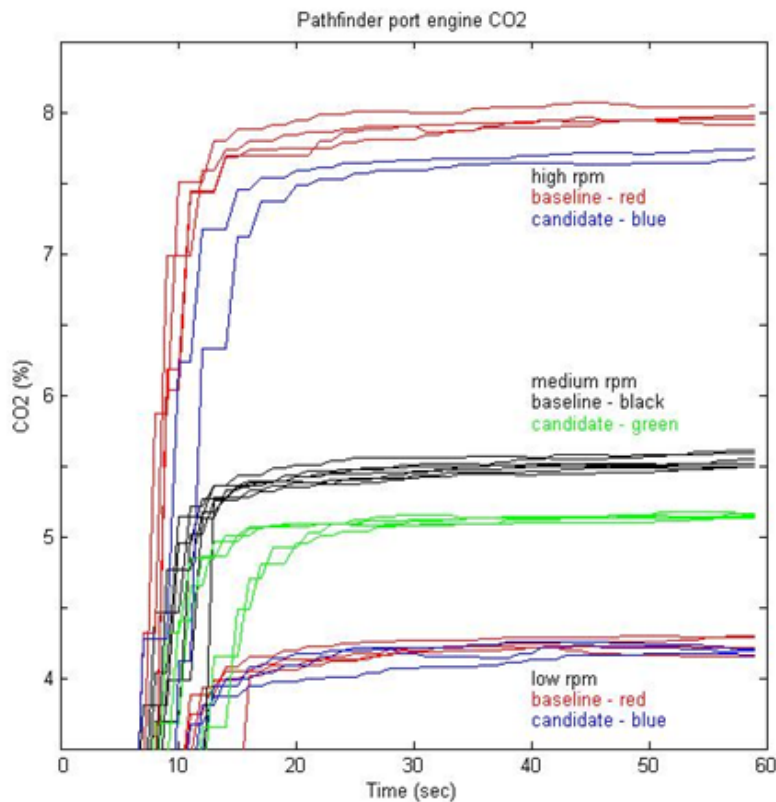
### Results

- Operators and crew prefer B100
- No adverse impacts
- Availability and quality of fuel confirmed
- No cold flow issues to date
- Material compatibility issue on 1 vessel (hoses)
- No observed microbial growth, lube oil dilution, water separation, and storage stability
- No filter plugging
- No issue with switch fueling



# NOAA – Army Corp of Engineers - CO<sub>2</sub> Preliminary Results

- Higher or equal for biodiesel at low RPM
- Lower for biodiesel at mid RPM
- Lower for biodiesel at high RPM





# MARAD – 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Biodiesel



Large scale trial of HR-D (50% petroleum / 50% algae)

Navy test protocols

Trial translates to large Research Vessel platforms

- 4 Caterpillar D398 engines
- 450 Hours
- 10,000 gallons



Potential test of higher bio content

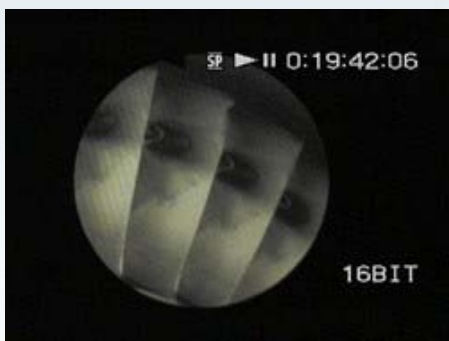


# MARAD – 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Biodiesel

## Emissions Results – Preliminary

- NO<sub>x</sub>      9-10% reduction
- CO        16-18% reduction
- CO<sub>2</sub>     4-5 % reduction
- PM        25% reduction

## Engine Diagnostics



Turbo charger blades



Cylinder heads



Pistons



# Questions ?

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