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Cleaner Fuels for Latin America with MTBE and ETBE Advanced Gasoline Components



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Fuel Ethers Are The Answer to Latin America's Energy & Air Quality Challenges

LyondellBasell has been a pioneer in the development of gasoline components based on tertiary butyl alcohol (TBA). Since the 1970s, these components have been incorporated into gasoline to help meet increasing standards for cleaner burning fuels.

Further improvements in air quality and engine performance will require cleaner-burning fuels with lower metal, sulfur, and aromatic contents and improved compatibility with other gasoline components.

LyondellBasell offers methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) and ethyl tertiary butyl ether (bio-ETBE) to improve fuel efficiency and air quality. Both MTBE and bio-ETBE are fully compatible with the existing fuel infrastructure in Latin America.

MTBE Delivers Cost-Effective Energy and Improved Air Quality

- Provides high octane & improved engine performance
- Provides formulation flexibility for refiners
- Helps lower gasoline sulfur & aromatic content
- Improves combustion to reduce tailpipe emissions
- Helps meet low vapor pressure standards to reduce fugitive emissions

ETBE is the First Choice for Renewable Bio-Fuels

- Provides 3 times more energy than ethanol*
- Contributes twice the octane value of ethanol*
- Replaces 10 vol.% more aromatics in gasoline*
- Does not absorb water, cause engine damage, or form azeotropes with gasoline components
- Reduces tailpipe hydrocarbon and PM emissions

MTBE is the #1 Fuel Ether Globally and a Great Fit for Latin America

MTBE fits perfectly in the existing gasoline infrastructure in Mexico, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. MTBE can be blended directly at the refinery and shipped via pipeline or vessel to local terminals. No separate blending or transportation assets are needed, resulting in lower capital and logistic costs and air pollution.

Cost-Effective Energy & Octane

- High octane index
- High energy content vs. ethanol
- 8% more can be blended in fuel

Available Globally

- Produced and used by PEMEX in Mexico
- Produced and traded globally
- New LyondellBasell capacity announced on the US Gulf Coast

Fuel Formulation Flexibility

- Zero sulfur
- Zero aromatics
- Low RVP = more butane

Compatible with Gasoline

- Will not phase separate
- Can be blended at the refinery
- Finished fuel transportable by pipeline and vessel*



*Alcohols must be blended at terminal and shipped by truck to gas station

MEXICO: A 20-Year Success Story Pollutant Reduction Since MTBE Introduction



Reduction in CO, Ozone, and PM10 in Mexico City



- 1992 UN declares Mexico City "Most Polluted in the World"
- 1993 Mexico chooses MTBE to reduce pollution in all Metropolitan Zones (MZs)
- 2013 Key air quality factors significantly reduced despite a doubling of the number of vehicles on the road

MTBE: A Key to Future Air Quality Improvements

MTBE allows refiners to meet stricter specifications for sulfur, aromatics, and RVP, all of which have been shown to significantly improve air quality.

MTBE also improves octane and fuel combustion which improves fuel efficiency and reduces tailpipe emissions especially during cold starts.

Cleaner Burning Fuels

- Lower Fuel RVP*
- Improved cold start combustion
- Less sulfur
- Less aromatic content
- Improved distillation properties
- Better overall combustion

Improve Air Quality

- Keeps evaporative emissions low
- Less CO from older vehicles
- Improved converter efficiency
- Lowers PM and Ozone formation
- Better fuel efficiency
- Lower overall pollution



Bio-ETBE: The First Choice in Renewable Biofuels

- ETBE is a renewable gasoline component made from bio-ethanol and natural gas
- ETBE is used throughout Europe and in Japan as the preferred bio-fuel
- ETBE is compatible with MTBE and provides improved octane and RVP



ETBE provides significant advantages over ethanol:

BX more energy*	2X the octane*	55X lower Blending Vapor Pressure (BRVP)	10% less aromatics in gasoline*
Fully	Low Water	No	Lower
Compatible	Sensitivity	Azeotropes	hydrocarbon
with fuel	no phase	with gasoline	and PM
infrastructure	separation	components	emissions ²

*at the same oxygen content

MTBE & ETBE Properties Close to Gasoline

		Magna Gasoline	Premium Gasoline	m-xylene	Butane	МТВЕ	ETBE	Ethanol
Energy Source		Crude oil	Crude oil	Crude oil	Nat. Gas	Nat. Gas	Nat. Gas & Biomass	Biomass
Octane	RON	report	95 min.	117	94	119	120	130
	MON	82 min.	report	101	91	101	102	96
	AKI (R+M)/2	87 min.	92 min.	109	93	110	111	116
BRVP	kPa	54-79 max.		3	379	54	28	138
	psi	6.5-11.5 max.		0.4	55	8	4	20
Boiling Point	°C	77-121		139	0	55	72	78
	°F	171-250		282	31	131	161	173
Net Energy Content	BTU/gal	114,500		127,144	102,032	93,583	96,069	76,300
Oxygen Content	Wt%	2.7 max.		0.0%	0.0%	18.2%	15.7%	34.8%
Oxygenate Content	WT% max.					14.9%	17.2%	7.3%
Specific Gravity		0.745		0.869	0.584	0.743	0.745	0.794
Water Solubility	Wt%	0.0%		0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	1.1%	100%
Sulfur Content	ppm	30 ave.		0	0	0	0	0
Aromatic Content	vol%	25% max.		100%	0%	0%	0%	0%

MTBE and ETBE: Optimal Properties For Octane Blending

- Higher octane than aromatics
- Low RVP, no waivers needed
- Excellent distillation properties
- Higher energy than alcohols
- Low water affinity
- Lower oxygen than alcohols

Additional Information

- 1. Riojas-Rodriguez , Salud Publica Mex. 2014 Nov-Dec;56(6):579-91: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25604409
- 2. EPAct/V2/E-89: http://www.epa.gov/otaq/models/moves/epact.htm
- 3. MTBE Benefits: http://www.acfa.org.sg/mtbe_benefits_summary.php
- MTBE FAQs: http://www.acfa.org.sg/mtbe_faqs.php
- ETBE Technical Bulletin: http://www.acfa.org.sg/library/ETBE_PRODUCT_BULLETIN_JUN_2006.pdf
- 6. WHO MTBE Study: http://www.acfa.org.sg/library/MTBE%20in%20Drinking%20Water.pdf
- 7. Worldwide Fuel Charter: http://www.acea.be/uploads/publications/Worldwide_Fuel_Charter_5ed_2013.pdf
- 8. The European Fuel Oxygenates web site: http://www.efoa.eu
- 9. Asian Clean Fuels Association web site: http://www.acfa.org.sg
- 10. MTBE product information: http://www.lyondellbasell.com/Products/ByCategory/refining/MethylTertiaryButylEther
- 11. ETBE product information: http://www.lyondellbasell.com/Products/ByCategory/refining/EthylTertiaryButylEther/index.htm

About LyondellBasell

LyondellBasell is one of the world's largest plastics, chemical and refining companies. We are the largest producer of polypropylene and polypropylene compounds; a leading producer of propylene oxide, polyethylene, ethylene and propylene; a global leader in polyolefins technology; and a producer of refined products, including biofuels.

LyondellBasell products and technologies are used to make items that improve the quality of life for people around the world including packaging, electronics, automotive components, home furnishings, construction materials and biofuels.

Users should review the applicable Safety Data Sheet before handling the product.

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