

Task Forces on Bioethanol and Biodiesel

The aim of the Bioethanol and Biodiesel Task Forces is to review existing documentary standards and identify areas where greater compatibility can be achieved in the short and long term.

Objectives

The objective of the Task Forces is to collect and analyse existing standards on pure bioethanol and biodiesel developed by ABNT, ASTM, and CEN and prepare a White Paper that identifies:

- a) a list of specifications¹ that are very similar or for which an agreement can be reached easily, and recommend proposed values;
- b) a list of specifications¹ that have differences in their values but are considered to be bridgeable after extensive discussions and exchange of information amongst the experts; the need for additional performance data and testing that may be required to justify differences or changes in specifications. The task force will either recommend proposed values for those specifications for which an agreement was reached, or recommend an action plan needed to reach an agreement.
- c) a list of specifications¹ that are either covered by law or other regulations, or those specifications that are too different to be deemed bridgeable in the foreseeable future.

Membership

The members of the Task Forces are nominated by ABNT, ASTM, and CEN but they act on their own personal capacity.

Representatives from China, India and South Africa, members of the International Biofuels Forum (IBF), will be invited to contribute through the IBF.

Follow up

The Task Force plans to submit the White Paper to the Brazilian, EC and US authorities by 31 December 2007. The White Paper will also be transmitted to the International Biofuels Forum.

After the submission of the White Paper, the members of the Task Force, subject to the approval of the US, Brazil and EC authorities, will decide whether it serves any purpose to continue the operation of the Task Force.

¹ Specifications refer to individual parameters, their values and related test methods

Issues addressed

1. Nomination of Brazil, EC and US representation.
These are Mr. Simões, Mr. Maniatis and Mr. Semerjian,
2. Nomination of Brazil, EU and US Task Force Leaders for Ethanol Task Force (ETF) and Biodiesel Task Force (BTF).
US and Brazil Task Force leaders and their experts (max 5) will be nominated by July 15th 2007 through their representatives; EU has already submitted their nominations.
3. Nomination of Brazil, EU and US Task Force members for ETF & BTF.
See (2) above
4. Need to decide who holds the pen per Task force.
Each Task Force will decide on the provision of the secretariat. It may be provided by the standardisation organisations involved.
5. Principle of cooperation will be “consensus” by all parties.
Agreed.
6. Each TF should address the issue of how to present the result/outcome to the standardisation organisations. This has to be done simultaneously.
Agreed.
7. Each government representative should address the issue of how to present the result/outcome to its administration.
Agreed
8. The ASTM paper, which compares existing standards, which was shared with other organizations will be used as a starting point for the discussions.

Washington DC, 2007.06.29