

Biodiesel makes Canadian Debut in Unionville

It's four parts diesel, one part stirfry.

Soy and canola oil comes out of Topia Energy's pumps in Unionville, where Canada's first retail biodiesel station opened this spring.

The station on Main Street south of Hwy. 7 is selling B20 - garden variety diesel with 20 per cent biodiesel from vegetable oil as a lubricant and pollution fighter.

"It's good for the economy, it's good for the environment and even better, it's good for your engine," Topia president Govindh Jayaraman declared before cutting a bright green ceremonial ribbon.

"Topia's biodiesel blend, which makes car exhaust smell oddly like a fast food restaurant kitchen, contributes 17 per cent less carbon dioxide to the atmosphere than diesel alone, so it's one of the best ways for Canada to



meet its commitment to reduce greenhouse gases," he said.

"Fuel choice is also a health issue, because air pollution has contributed to thousands of premature deaths in Ontario," Markham Deputy Mayor Frank Scarpitti added before pumping biodiesel into a waiting E300 Mercedes sedan.

"Biodiesel cuts emissions of ground-level ozone and particulate matter - main components in smog - from diesel engines by 40 to 50 per cent," Topia said.

The Town of Markham started using biodiesel in 50 riding mowers, loaders and backhoes last August and used 8,000 litres last year, switching from B50 (50 per cent biodiesel) to B20 in September.

Article reprinted from Markham Economist & Sun.

International Air Rally Markham winners



Since 2001, the International Air Rally team has put together the largest and most important Air Rallies in North America. Approximately 100 pilots from Canada, USA, and Europe with single engine planes, seaplanes and helicopters, have so far travelled 18,000 nautical miles; visited more than 18 municipalities; met mayors and dignitaries from every visited city; received trophies and prizes; and stored in their mind priceless stories to tell to their families and friends.

This summer the International Air Rally flew into Markham's Toronto Buttonville Airport on the July 15 weekend, supported by several international journalists and a television crew.

International Air Rally is more than a race! The winners of each leg are tested on different skills: navigation, physical skills and general knowledge (mechanic, survival, first aid).

2004 Visual Flight Rules (VFR) trophy goes to...

Congratulations to the Town of Markham team - André Turgeon, John Lorimer, Morris Kansun, Ontario Cessna 185 amphibian who placed third with 349 points.

2004 Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) winning team...

Congratulations to the Town of Markham team - André Turgeon, John Lorimer, Morris Kansun, Ontario Cessna 185 amphibian who placed first with 91 points.

Congratulations to the winner of the Town of Markham Challenge - Nu Tech team: pilot Jean Charles Rey.

Learn more at www.airrally.com

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