

# Making the right choices on biofuels quality is the only way forward

Fuel ethers are quality biofuels. They:

- Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, starting at the production level, covering the entire lifecycle of the fuel
- Improve air quality by reducing vehicle emissions
- Provide a quality fuel that is cleaner, more environmentally friendly, with high bio-energy content



**EFOA**  
The European Fuel Oxygenates Association

**EFOA is the association that represents  
European producers of fuel ethers.**

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*EFOA is a sector group of Cefic,  
the European Chemical Industry Council*

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## What are Bio-Ethers?

Fuel ethers are blending components that are made from renewable and alternative sources of energy

When added to petrol they make it burn cleanly and completely and enhance engine performance, whilst reducing engine wear and toxic exhaust emissions, as well as the amount of ground-level ozone.

Fuel ethers were first introduced in the 1970's to replace lead, a toxic compound which has since been banned in Europe.

The fuel ether bio-ETBE\* is a derivative from bioethanol, obtained from the distillation of wheat and/or sugar beet. About half of all bio-ethanol blended into gasoline in the EU is currently in the form of bio-ETBE.

In addition, bio-MTBE is by far the largest commercially available advanced biofuel for gasoline blending.

As advanced biofuels, fuel ethers are a necessary part of the solution to meeting the EU Renewable and Fuel Quality objectives. Moreover they contribute significantly to:

- Improving the quality of the air that we breathe
- Providing cleaner energy for road transport
- Increasing environmentally friendly security of supply

In addition, fuel ethers present key benefits to the EU's Climate and Energy policies, aiming to ensure that the ambitious "20-20-20" targets are met by 2020, and beyond.

\* The most widely used fuel ethers are MTBE (methyl tertiary-butyl ether) and ETBE (ethyl tertiary-butyl ether), followed by TAME (tertiary-amyl methyl ether) and TAAE (tertiary-amyl ethyl ether).



WHO WE ARE

- Founded in 1985, EFOA is a non-profit, technical organisation.
- Its role is to represent the European Fuel Ether industry in a wide variety of technical and regulatory initiatives.
- EFOA is recognised by the European institutions as a stakeholder on fuel quality and biofuels.
- We have 11 members representing the majority of the European ether production capacity: Ecofuel/ENI Group, Evonik Industries, Hellenic Petroleum, LyondellBasell, Lukoil, Neste Oil, PKN Orlen, Repsol, Sabic, Saras, Total.
- EFOA operates under the umbrella of Cefic (the European Chemical Industry Council).

WHAT WE DO

EFOA, the Association of European Fuel Oxygenates Producers, is dedicated to the responsible usage of ethers in gasoline based on the application of sound science. EFOA considers that ethers have an important role to play in creating a cleaner environment based on sustainable transport fuels. This is reflected in our mission: EFOA is dedicated to the promotion of ethers as fuel components towards a cleaner and sustainable future. EFOA actively promotes constructive co-operation with all stakeholders including legislators, regulators, industry, NGOs etc.

Extensive information available on [www.efoa.eu](http://www.efoa.eu)

