PRESS RELEASE

The European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) approves of final EN specification for paraffinic fuels 15940

Brussels, 12 May 2016 – Yesterday, the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN), approved of the final European CEN specification for paraffinic diesel fuels, EN 15940, by a majority of votes. While both final drafting and ratification are still underway, the EN 15940 standard is expected to come into force by 19 June 2016.

CEN specifications are created by European standardisation and industry bodies, comprising technical experts, to ensure that the appropriate quality products are available on the market. The previous prEN 15940 designation, standing for “preliminary European Norm”, already defined the key parameters of paraffinic fuels, but the final specification gives further weight to this standard.

ASFE, which represents the voice of paraffinic fuels in Europe, warmly welcomes the approval of the final EN 15940 standard, which further confirms the availability, commercial maturity and environmental benefits of paraffinic diesel, acknowledging its great potential as a clean alternative diesel fuel for transport.

Paraffinic diesel fuels are a class of high quality diesel fuels that include Gas-to-Liquids (GTL) fuel, Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO), and Biomass-to-Liquids (BTL). The existence of standards such as EN 15940 for paraffinic diesel fuels enables vehicle manufacturers and regulators a more scientific and consistent way to integrate GTL, HVO and BTL fuels into relevant EU policies and legislation, and sets a high standard for paraffinic fuels.

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About ASFE

Launched in March 2006 in Brussels, the Alliance for Synthetic Fuels in Europe (ASFE) is a unique initiative at the European level bringing together car manufacturers and fuel suppliers working towards reducing the environmental impact of road transport through improved energy efficiency and cleaner fuels. The members of ASFE are Shell, Toyota and Neste.

About paraffinic fuels

Paraffinic fuels are clean, high quality diesel fuels made from a wide variety of feedstocks, and include BTL (Biomass to liquid), GTL (Gas to liquid), as well as HVO (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil). Paraffinic fuels are fungible and can be used at any blending rates up to 100% in current and future diesel engines. Note it is up to the discretion of the manufacturer if vehicle warranties are still valid when running on paraffinic fuels. Therefore, these fuels can be distributed, stored and used with the existing infrastructure, and are available now.

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1To compensate the lower density of paraffinic fuels compared to conventional diesel, adjustment in injection amount may be necessary.