

BIODIESEL PRODUCED IN SOUTHWARK

Uptown Oil started in 2007 and is situated under railway arches in Southwark. It is here that the company converts used cooking oil into biodiesel. At the present time this is the only licensed biodiesel producer in central London. Much of this is then sold to taxi drivers. This biodiesel conforms to the European standard, EN 14214. This is an international standard that describes the requirements for biodiesel. It is the quality standard accepted by automotive manufacturers.

AIR QUALITY

Member of the Environment Committee at City Hall are currently reviewing air quality in London; they recently visited Uptown Oil to see the benefits the biodiesel could bring to London's air quality. It is now more than 100 years ago since the diesel engine was invented by Rudolf Diesel to run on peanut oil. Perhaps a bit ahead of his time, Mr Diesel said: "The use of vegetable oils for engine fuels may seem insignificant today but such oils may become, in the course of time, as important as petroleum and the coal-tar products of the present time." Today, Uptown Oil are running a fleet ten vans visiting around 800 restaurants across London to deliver vegetable oil, used for cooking in the kitchens. Most of the oil which Uptown deliver comes from rapeseed, the bright yellow crop now a common sight on our landscape during early summer and autumn. Uptown exclusively recycle waste oil after it has

been used for cooking. Some reports in the media have stated that commercial mass production biodiesel made from virgin vegetable oil has been linked to deforestation in the developing world, where it can take food from the hungry and can increase CO2 emissions where the oil crops are intensively grown. As Uptown Oil only uses waste oil, these damaging effects are avoided and at the same time make use of an otherwise waste product with little use or value.

INCREASE IN MPG

The same fleet of vans that make the deliveries are also working to collect the used cooking oil which is then made into biodiesel. The oil they collect does not have to be the same oil as they have delivered, but any oil not from vegetable sources (such as animal fats) are separated out recycled elsewhere, such in paint manufacture or biomass generators. Uptown Oil markets its biodiesel to London's taxi drivers in particular. This is because the fuel performs efficiently and cleanly in urban driving, helping to achieve cleaner city air. Uptown Oil test results show a reduction in particulate emissions by 57%. In real terms this means a litre of biodiesel saves 1 kilogram of CO2 when compared to mineral diesel - a saving of 5,000 kilograms per year for a typical taxi. One driver who has been using the biodiesel recommends the fuel. He finds the improvement in performance and emissions from the Uptown biodiesel saves him money as he is



getting better miles per gallon, or litre, whichever you make your calculations in.

WARRANTY ISSUES

Although the warranty on newer taxis does not allow the use of biodiesel under its terms and conditions, drivers whose cabs are out of warranty are using the Biodiesel from Uptown Oil. Uptown Oil say that their biodiesel is suitable for use in diesel vehicles without any modification and their own fleet has been running on the product for many months now. As taxi drivers know, there are many, many different restaurants in London so recycled cooking oil is in plentiful supply. Turning it into biodiesel saves this cooking oil from being poured into the drain, or dumped at landfill. Current tax breaks also mean the fuel is slightly cheaper at the pump.

'THE SEYHAN AND MEHMET ALI MEMORIAL CUP'

Charity Football Match

Sunday, 3rd May 2009

Bank of England Ground

'The Academy'

Langston Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 3TQ

Home Team: Fairway Vets

-V-

Away Team: Tipples

k.o. 1.00pm



London Cab driver, Stephen Powell, has organised a charity football match for the last five years in aid of a young boy, Seyhan Ali, who sadly never recovered from his courageous fight against cancer in January 2005. Tragically, Seyhan's brother, Mehmet passed away recently after he too lost his valiant battle against cancer.

Seyhan and Mehmet's father, Emin, has worked at M & H Taxis (known as Mehmet's) for over twenty five years so when Stephen heard of Emin, and his wife Sener's tragedy, he decided to raise money for cancer related charities by means of a football match in memory of Seyhan and Mehmet.

Seyhan and Mehmet are dearly missed by their parents, brother, family and friends but by helping to raise money for charity, you will be helping to ease the pain in the lives of other children and adults with this life threatening illness.

Proceeds from the match will go to 'Make a Wish Foundation UK'.

'Make-A-Wish' grants magical wishes to children and young people fighting life-threatening illnesses. 'Make-A-Wish' was founded in the UK in June 1986 and, since then, they have granted over 5,300 wishes.

Last year's match raised £1105 and granted a wish for a young lad, Ryan, 16, who is living with Thyroid Cancer. His wish was to be a zookeeper at Longleat Safari Park for the day. After Ryan's day at the zoo his mum said, "Thank you for everything. It was absolutely fantastic! Just to see Ryan with a big grin on his face all day was absolutely priceless."

So why not come along and watch a bit of football in aid of a deserving cause.