



Technical Tip Top Tier Detergent Gasoline

A new class of gasoline, called TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline, is appearing at retail stations of some fuel marketers. This gasoline meets detergency standards developed by four automotive companies. A description of the concept and benefits of TOP TIER is provided in the following question and answer section.

What is TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline? TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline is a new class of gasoline with enhanced detergency. It meets new, voluntary deposit control standards developed by four automotive companies that exceed the detergent requirements imposed by the EPA.

Who developed TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline standards?

TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline standards were developed by four automotive companies: BMW, General Motors, Honda and Toyota.

Why was TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline developed?

TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline was developed to increase the level of detergent additive in gasoline. The EPA requires that all gasoline sold in the U.S. contain a detergent additive. However, the requirement is minimal and in many cases, is not sufficient to keep engines clean. In order to meet TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline standards, a higher level of detergent is needed than what is required by the EPA. Also, TOP TIER was developed to give fuel marketers the opportunity to differentiate their product.

Why did the four automotive companies join together to develop TOP TIER?

All four corporations recognized the benefits to both the vehicle and the consumer. Also, joining together emphasized that low detergency is an issue of concern to several automotive companies.

What are the benefits of TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline?

TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline will help keep engines cleaner than gasoline containing the "Lowest Additive Concentration" set by the EPA. Clean engines help provide optimal fuel economy and performance and reduced emissions. Also, use of TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline will help reduce deposit related concerns.

Who should use TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline?

All vehicles will benefit from using TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline over gasoline containing the "Lowest Additive Concentration" set by the EPA. Those vehicles that have experienced deposit related concerns may especially benefit from use of TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline.

Gasoline Brands That Currently Meet TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline Standards

As of August 15, 2005, the following gasoline brands meet the TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline Standards:

- *Chevron* Chevron has markets in 29 states in the West, Southwest and South, as well as in Alaska and Hawaii. ALL grades of Chevron with Techron gasoline meet TOP TIER Detergent Gasoline Standards.
- *QuikTrip* (not to be confused with Kwik Trip) QuikTrip operates convenience stores and travel centers in a number of metropolitan areas:
 - Tulsa, OK
 - Springfield, MO
 - Kansas City, MO and Kansas City, KS
 - Wichita, KS
 - Des Moines, IA
 - Omaha, NE
 - St. Louis, MO and St. Louis, IL
 - Atlanta, GA
 - Dallas-Ft. Worth, TX
 - Phoenix, AZ
 - Bartlesville, OK
 - Miami, OK
 - Vinita, OK
 - Columbia, MO
- *Conoco* has over 4,000 stations located in 33 states.
- *Phillips 66* has locations in 32 states across the nation.
- *76* has over 2,700 stations located throughout the country.
- *Shell* Shell Oil Products has a network of nearly 7,000 branded gasoline stations in the Western United States. Shell Oil Company markets branded products through more than 10,000 stations in the Eastern and Southern United States.
- *Entec Stations* offer gasoline through stations located in the greater Montgomery, Alabama area.
- *MFA Oil Company* offers gasoline at "Break Time" convenience stores located throughout Missouri.
- *Kwik Trip, Inc.* offers gasoline at Kwik Trip convenience stores in Minnesota and Wisconsin and Kwik Star convenience stores in Iowa.
- *The Somerset Refinery, Inc.* offers gasoline at Somerset Oil stations in Kentucky

Technical Tip question of the Month. Last month we added a new feature to this newsletter, we asked a technical question that was previously published and awarded a prize to the first correct responder. **Congratulations to Rich Ruggerio** of Cablevision for being first with the correct answer "C", Dexcool life is 5 years/150,000 miles.

This month's technical question. The General Motors patented **OIL LIFE Monitoring System** monitors which of the following vehicle conditions?

A – mileage odometer & vehicle speed **B** – engine temperatures, engine revolutions & operating characteristics **C** - Oil degradation, vehicle towing & last oil change