

***11<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON STABILITY,  
HANDLING AND USE OF LIQUID FUELS  
October 18 – 22 2009,  
Prague, Czech Republic***

**AUTOMOTIVE FUELS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC – PRODUCTION,  
DISTRIBUTION, QUALITY AND QUALITY ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS**

Vladimir Matejovsky

QMS-Consulting, Kankova 32, 108 00 Prague, Czech Republic

This paper affords a brief information on the production, distribution and market of automotive fuels in the host country of the 11th International Conference and describes the systems used for quality monitoring in the way from refinery to service stations and vehicles tanks.

Modern technology of Czech refineries ensures a high level of fuels quality but this is not the end of needful care about it. Addition of bio components to petrol and diesel fuel can deteriorate fuel stability and this fact presents some limitation for fuel transport and storage and brings new requirements for care about quality. Transport and storage present enormous numbers of manipulations during which the quality is in danger of damage, if the care is not sufficient. From this reason, the only quality control of fuels before their dispatching from the refinery is insufficient and it is necessary to repeat it after following manipulations.

In 2001, a new integrated quality control system was introduced. It is derived from monitoring according to EN 142 74, obligatory used in EU, and from the former fuel quality inspection according to the law for customer protection. About 2500 samples a year are taken by random sampling at service stations from the dispenser nozzles and their quality is verified by state inspection body. The results of state monitoring are presented in this paper. If any fuel quality non-conformity is identified, the service station is penalized but it is inadmissible to publish the names of petrol stations where non-conformities were found. From this reason it was necessary to introduce another monitoring system, performed by an independent inspection body as a contracted service for petrol stations. If the monitoring results can acknowledge quality correctness in the long term, the service station is awarded by a special sticker SEAL OF FUELS QUALITY, which is stuck by dispensers as a guarantee for customers that the quality of fuels dispensed by this service station is good and reliable.