



First Biodiesel Engine Powered SUV: 2005 Jeep Liberty

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([PRWEB](#)) February 3, 2005 -- As more and more people realize the enormous fuel consumption of SUVs, Jeep's decision to release a diesel version of the Jeep Liberty is a sensible move. With the Jeep Liberty diesel engine providing a welcome option towards cheaper fuel, gas consumption will no longer be a heavy concern.

Furthermore, each new 2005 Jeep Liberty Common Rail Diesel (CRD) SUV will be fueled by a 5% biodiesel, a renewable fuel that is produced from plants. Chrysler takes the first step in persuading the automobile industry to dispose of its bias towards diesel powered engines. Chrysler encourages other companies to develop their own researches to produce similar technologies geared towards safer, more environmental friendly automobiles utilizing renewable energy.

"This is an important first step in encouraging wider use of these clean, renewable, environmentally-friendly fuels in the United States," said Dieter Zetsche, Chrysler Group President and CEO.

The biodiesel used for the 2005 Jeep Liberty is made from vegetable oil. Soy beans grown in Ohio are especially processed to extract the precious fuel.

The Jeep Liberty diesel is the first diesel-powered mid-size SUV to be offered in the United States. It is equipped with a 2.8-liter four-cylinder engine and an automatic transmission with a 4-wheel drive capability.

The Liberty efficiently utilizes the new CRD technology that greatly improves efficiency and reduces emissions by calibrating the amount and pressure of fuel injected into the engine's combustion chambers. The Liberty CRD diesel will achieve 22 mpg city and 27 mpg highway, 30% less than the gasoline engine. Also, diesel engines produces 20% less greenhouse gas compared with gasoline engines.

Biodiesel fuel diminishes emissions of particulate matter like hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide. The biodiesel portion of the fuel is virtually carbon dioxide neutral which means the amount of carbon dioxide released when the fuel is burned is matched by the amount of carbon dioxide absorbed by soy plants during growth.

"With biodiesel, we can increase these benefits even further. And because biodiesel is made from renewable resources, we further reduce our dependence on petroleum for our transportation needs," Zetsche said.

Biodiesel blends of up to 5% concentration (B5) are available in public fueling stations at certain locations across the United States, particularly in areas with considerable soybean farming. Conventional diesel fuel is currently available in about one-third of all filling stations in the country. B5 fuels are already extensively used in Chrysler Group diesel engine vehicles in Europe where DaimlerChrysler has gained significant experience with the fuels. The company is working with the biodiesel industry, petroleum industry, government, and standard-setting organizations to establish standards for biodiesel.



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