# FUEL QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAMS





### EU CONSUMER MARKET STUDY – HIGHLIGHTS I.

- Consumer market study on the functioning of the market for vehicle fuels from a consumer perspective
- Prepared by Civic Consulting in 2014 for the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers based on data collected from September 2012 to April 2013
- 27 000 respondents in 29 countries (EU, Norway and Iceland)



#### EU CONSUMER MARKET STUDY – HIGHLIGHTS II.

- Results of this study indicate that most consumers are not loyal to a particular fuel brand or individual petrol station. Only 13% and 10% of consumer survey respondents, respectively, indicated 'sells my preferred brand'.
- Price is the critical factor in consumers' decision-making in terms of retailer selection: 68% of consumer survey respondents indicated 'offers the lowest price' as an important consideration in their choice of a petrol station.
  - 56 % Romania
- Factors other than price that play a role in fuel type preferences
  - Previous good experience with a given type of fuel (27%) 40% Romania,
  - Perceived benefits for engine or vehicle performance (22%) 29%
     Romania
  - Fuel quality (18%) 39% Romania



### EU CONSUMER MARKET STUDY – HIGHLIGHTS III.

- Main sources of information about vehicle fuels were
  - Information at the pump (fuel labels or other signs) (50%);
  - Family / friends / colleagues (29%);
  - Information on or next to the vehicle's filling cap (22%);
  - Price comparison websites for fuel (22%); and
  - Staff working at the petrol station (21%).
- Use of 'personal advice, is higher in EU12 countries (68%), Romania (74%)
  - Labeling 61%
  - Internet 44%
- Only a minority finds it easy to get clear information: fuel quality (28%) and on the effects of particular fuel types on engine or vehicle performance (26%).



### EU CONSUMER MARKET STUDY – HIGHLIGHTS IV.

- According to the stakeholder organizations consulted for this study, the highest number of complaints received during the previous five years concerned fuel prices (51%), followed by fuel quality (31%) and unfair commercial practices (11%).
- 43% survey respondents say that they have experienced a problem during the previous 12 months
  - 9% said that low quality fuel led to engine or vehicle performance problems
  - 7% received less fuel in the tank than they paid for
- Fuel quality problems experienced by respondents are notable for their disparity between EU15 and EU12 countries: rather the exception in the EU15 (4% of respondents reported having experienced such a problem), this was less the case among EU12 respondents, 17% of whom reported experiencing such a problem.
  - Countries with the highest incidence of reported problems of this type were Bulgaria and Greece (27% each), Romania (25%) and the Czech Republic (18%).



#### **FUEL QUALITY MONITORING** – SERVICES

- Dedicated quality monitoring programs were designed by SGS
  - Addressing specific issues and mitigating risks in each part of the fuel distribution and retail segment.
  - Supporting quality awareness and importance for consumers
  - Building confidence and promoting companies selling quality
  - Utilization of the programs in fuel retail and wholesale marketing communication
- Technical tool used to keep quality and related operations under control
- Marketing tool confirming care of quality to business partners











### FUEL QUALITY MONITORING – HISTORY

- 2003 1<sup>st</sup> generation of the Seal of Quality program (SoQ)
  - Basic tool for quality monitoring
  - Introduced by Institute of Fuels and Lubricants
- 2006 1<sup>st</sup> generation of the Terminal Monitoring program (TM)
- 2007 SGS introduced fuel testing mobile laboratory
- 2009 Institute of Fuels and Lubricants acquired by SGS
- 2010 SoQ and TM upgrade
  - Visual redesign
  - Introduction of audits and risk analysis
  - Complex technical and marketing tool
- 2012 Implementation of bio components and bio fuels into SoQ
- 2013 Development of tanker sampling device
- 2014 Development of FTIR screening technique for fuels properties
- 2014 Utilization of mobile devices for on-site audits data collection
- 2015 Introduction of Transport Guarantee program (TG)



### FUEL QUALITY MONITORING – REFERENCES

- OMV Czech Republic (July 1st 2015)
  - SoQ
  - HSE, Fire protection, Environmental protection
  - MaxxMotion introduction testing and consultancy
- SHELL Czech Republic and Bulgaria (September 1st 2015)
  - SoQ
  - Premium fuels testing according to CEC test methods
- BENZINA (PKN Orlen Group)
  - SoQ
  - Technical support
- UNIPETROL
  - SoQ, TM, turnkey project for wholesale
- ČEPRO (Czech state owned storage, pipeline and gas stations operator)
  - SoQ, TM, TG
- GLOBUS, TESCO
  - SoQ
  - Technical audits



#### SEAL OF QUALITY – TECHNICAL TOOL

#### Initial period

- System audit and risk analysis
  - Involving all processes influencing quality of fuels
- 1st round of fuel sampling and testing
- Additional requirements
  - Sales of premium fuels
  - Claim management rules

- Mandatory requirements
- Market specific requirements
- Awarding the Seal of Quality mark to compliant networks
- Continuation
  - Random and partial audits of gas stations
    - Adherence to procedures
    - Based on audit findings and risk analysis
  - Fuel sampling and testing
    - Scope of tests defined by the SoQ Programme Conditions
    - Adjusted based on the initial period findings
    - Unannounced sampling per SGS decision
- Evaluation of results by SGS Inspection Body
- Support by independent industry experts





# SGS FUEL QUALITY MONITORING – STATISTICS

#### Seal of Quality

•	Number of participating gas stations	1.020
•	Market coverage	28%
•	Number of fuel samples	6.413
•	Number of tested parameters	51.300
•	Share of quality discrepancies	0,6%

#### **Terminal Monitoring**

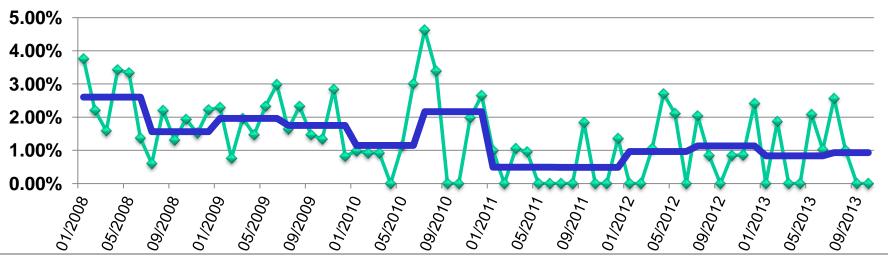
<ul> <li>Number of participating terminals</li> </ul>	19
<ul> <li>Market coverage</li> </ul>	50%
<ul> <li>Number of samples</li> </ul>	3.800
<ul> <li>Number of tested parameters</li> </ul>	30.400
<ul> <li>Share of quality discrepancies</li> </ul>	0,3%

Czech Republic, 2014



#### SEAL OF QUALITY – CASE STUDY

- 2008 beginning of participation in the Seal of Quality program
  - Level of non conformities exceeding 3,5%, reduced progressively to 1% in QI 2010
- **2010 mid year** change of organization structure
  - Instant growth of non conformities level above 4,5%
  - Critical situation was immediately addressed and solved in close cooperation
- **2013** 1212 samples, 9 off specification (0,74%)
  - 3x flash point, 3x sulphur, 3x vapour pressure
- **2014** 933 samples, 3 off specification (0,32%)
  - 2x flash point, 1x vapour pressure





### SEAL OF QUALITY – MARKETING TOOL

- Distinguish the best from the others
- Improve awareness of fuel quality importance, educate
  - Fuel consumption
  - Reliability and performance of vehicle
  - Environment protection
- Accurate information and simplified orientation for motorists
- Marketing
  - Sticker at every filling station, at every dispenser
  - SGS
    - Press conference
    - Press relations
    - Infotainment
  - Client
    - Flags, banners, shop window stickers, leaflets
    - Web pages, Facebook, on-line marketing
    - Advertising and marketing campaigns
  - www.dobrapumpa.cz /PompaSigura





### SEAL OF QUALITY – WWW.DOBRAPUMPA.CZ

- Web page dedicated to the Seal of Quality program
- Education of motorists and journalists
- Sections addressed to
  - Motorists
  - Participants
  - Press
- Information about the Program conditions
- Frequently asked Questions
- News SGS
- List of participants and gas stations locator
- Media section listing all PR activities related
  - TV and radio broadcasting three times per year in average, main news, investigative programs
  - Almost 40 web and print articles since 2010, related to quality of fuels and referring to the Seal of Quality program



### \_ SEAL OF QUALITY – VALUE

- What does it mean for the gas stations?
  - Promote the brand and enhance consumers' confidence in the quality of fuels
  - Support marketing campaigns using the Seal of Quality
  - Improve the control over the whole distribution chain (facilities, staff and distributors/suppliers, franchise)
  - Provide technical support to solve fuel quality related issues
  - Assistance for claims and disputes resolutions
- What does it mean for the motorists?
  - Simplify the selection of gas station and ensure purchase of quality fuels only
  - Prevent damage to engines and avoid costs related to unnecessary repairs
  - Independent patronage in case of problems, professional and objective findings during potential warranty cases
  - But especially...

#### **Guarantee to purchase only quality fuels**



### TERMINAL MONITORING – TECHNICAL TOOL

#### Initial period

- 1st round of fuel sampling and testing
- System audit and risk analysis
  - Fuels, bio fuels, bio components, additivation
  - Documentation of supplies and operations
  - Staff training and management
  - Equipment maintenance and repair

- Receiving & Loading
- Intermediate operations
- Internal quality procedures
- Quality certificates
- Awarding the Terminal Monitoring mark to compliant terminals
- Continuation
  - Random and partial audits of processes
    - Adherence to procedures
    - Based on audit findings and risk analysis
  - Fuel sampling and testing
    - Scope of tests defined by the TM Programme Conditions
    - Adjusted based on the initial period findings
    - Unannounced sampling per SGS decision
- Evaluation of results by SGS Inspection Body





### TRANSPORT GUARANTEE – TECHNICAL TOOL

#### Initial period

- Fuel sampling direct sampling during discharge at gas station
- Additional requirements
  - GPS and camera surveillance
- System audit and risk analysis
  - Tankers documentation and technology
  - Tankers maintenance and metrology
  - Logistics scheduling and surveillance
  - Loading and discharge procedures

- Sealing of tankers and storage tanks
- Staff training and management
- Exceptional and emergency situations
- Awarding the Transport Guarantee mark to compliant logistic companies
- Continuation
  - Random and partial audits of processes
    - Adherence to procedures
    - Based on audit findings and risk analysis
  - Fuel sampling and testing
    - Scope of tests defined by the TG Programme Conditions
    - Adjusted based on the initial period findings
    - Unannounced sampling per SGS decision
- Evaluation of results by SGS Inspection Body





## TERMINAL MONITORING & TRANSPORT GUARANTEE – MARKETING TOOL

- B2B sales tool with B2C positive side effect
- Marketing
  - Billboard at every terminal gate
  - Extra large paintings of quality marks on tankers
  - Programs quality marks on delivery notes and invoices
- PR and marketing investment by SGS
  - PR activities
  - Press conference
- PR and marketing campaigns by client
  - Flags, billboards, stickers
  - Web pages
  - Advertising



- Adopted wholesale strategy covering full distribution chain from terminals to gas stations
- In exchange for exclusivity of supplies, ČEPRO guarantees quality of fuels and accepts full responsibility
- First bearer of the Quality Guarantee of Motor Fuel Distribution combined quality mark





## SGS CEPRO – WHOLESALE PACKAGE





### SGS FUEL RETAIL SERVICES

- Mystery Shopping
- Food and Hygiene
- Health, Safety & Environmental Services
- Fuel Quality & Integrity Programs
- Additivation Services
- Calibration & Metrology
- Tank Leak Detection
- Microbiological Contamination
- Fuel Quantity Inspections & Audits
- Engineering, Procurement & Construction Management

#### **WWW.SGS.COM**

