

# ETHANOL USE AND THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

Ricardo Abreu



# MOBILITY CHALLENGES DRIVING ENGINES DEVELOPMENT

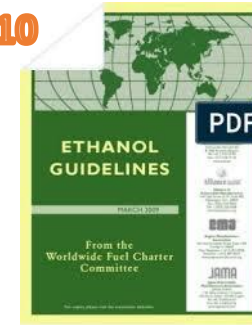
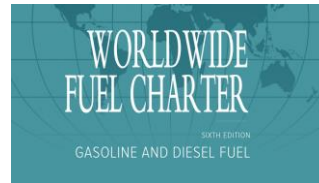
Focus on Alternative Fuels Improved considerably in the last decades – oil crisis

At the beginning big part of field problems in Brazil were caused by bad fuel quality and no experience on high % of Ethanol

Most of the material improvements were also needed for modern technologies, like fuel injection and turbocharging, standard today

E10 is accepted worldwide, higher blends up to E20 can be used checking compatibility with the OEM

## Fuel Spec improved with E10 and Ethanol guidelines



Station Filtration on dispensers adapted for alcohols



Aluminum or steel coated when in touch with fuel



Plastics like PA 6.6 replaced by PA 12



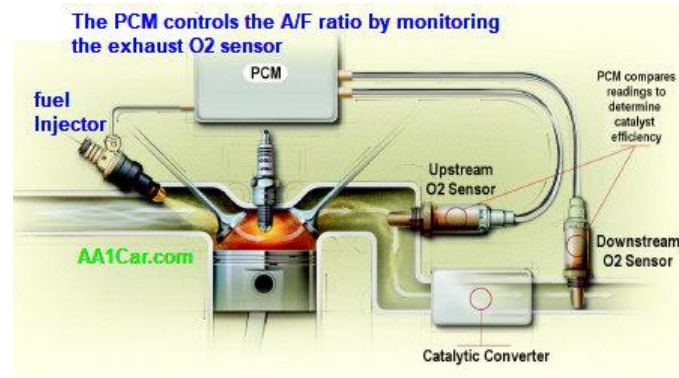
Sealing, gaskets, o-rings made of Fluorinated Elastomers (VITON)



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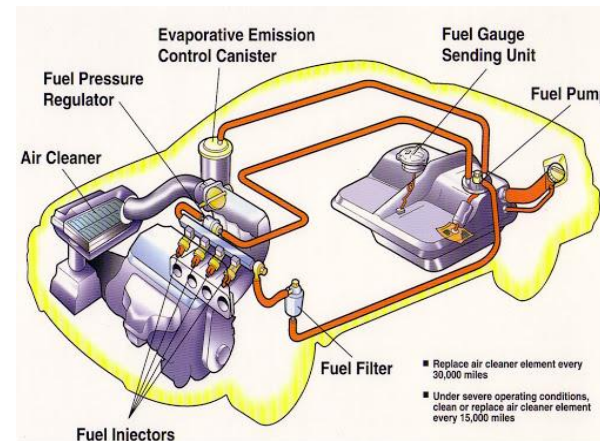
## Emission control demands improved flexfuel capability

New fuel systems improved air-ratio control identifying changes on fuel composition or ethanol blends



Brazil developed a flexfuel system without the need of an expensive fuel composition sensor using closed loop controls allowed ethanol content recognition.

New fuel systems to improve emissions and components durability work better for ethanol blends as well . For legal reasons OEM defines the Ethanol blend compatibility.



In 2015 after tests carried out with on series vehicles with OEM participation, E27 was released in Brazil for local produced cars. imported vehicles run on E25



**ETHANOL BLENDS  
EFFECT ON  
POLLUTANT  
EMISSIONS DEPENDS  
ON ENGINE  
TECHNOLOGY.**

**MODERN ENGINES,  
GASOLINE DIRECT  
INJECTION (GDI) USES  
THE WHOLE ETHANOL  
PROPERTIES  
ADVANTAGES.**

### **North Carolina State University**

NCSU – E10 X E25 Current Fleet Vehicles (**SPI**)

- E25 less 30-40% UFP (ultrafine particulates)
- E25 reduced CO by 15-30%
- No change in NOx

### **University California Riverside**

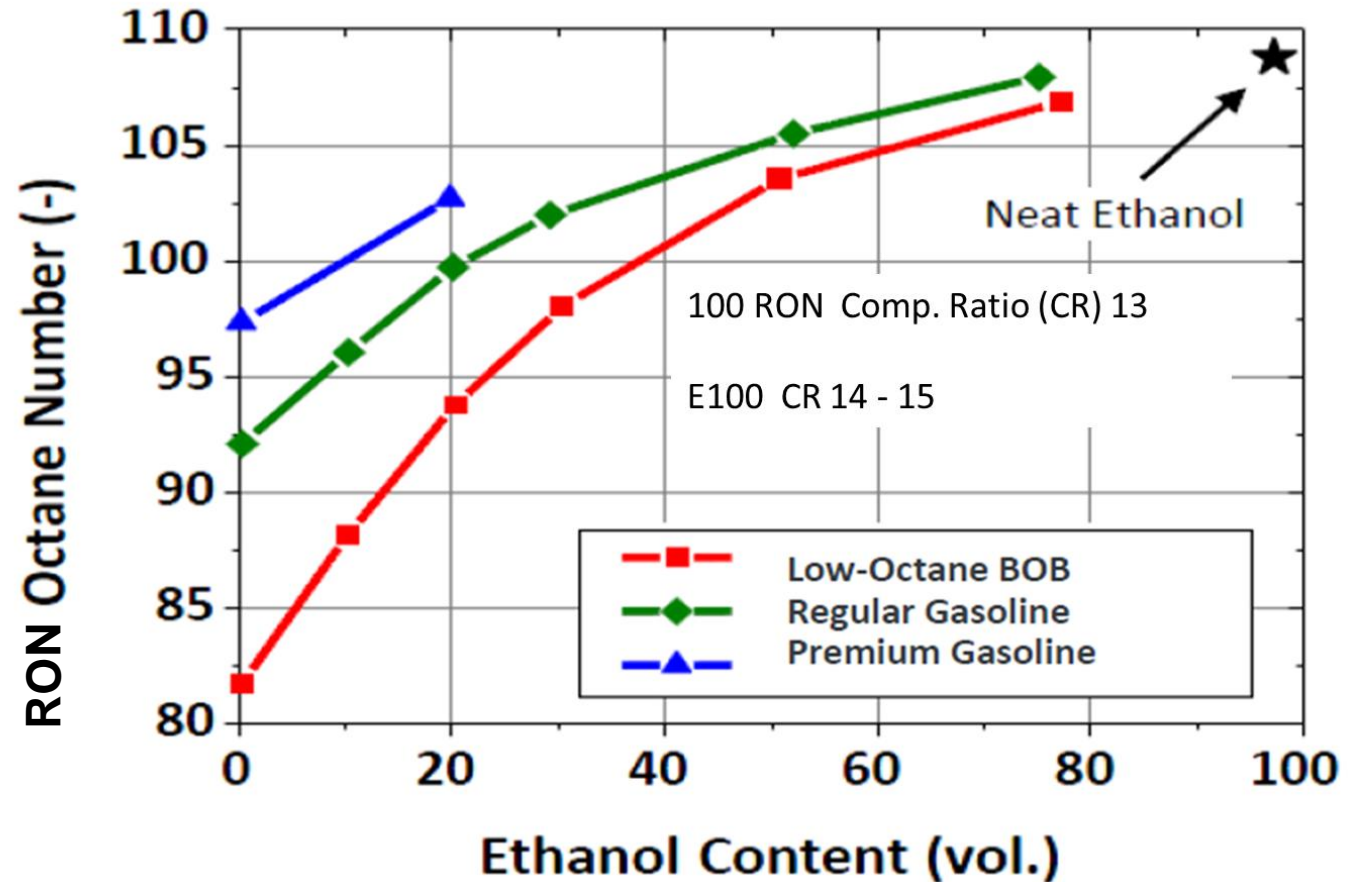
UCR – E10 x E25 Current Fleet Vehicles (**MPI**)

- E25 10-30% NOx reduction

### **EMPA, Swiss Federal Laboratories**

- (E0) x (E10 and E85) Euro-5 **GDI**
- Particle number emissions E10 and E85 lowered by 97 and 96%
- CO dropped by 81 and 87%
- CO<sub>2</sub> reduced by 13 and 17%
- PAHs lowered by 67-96% - E10, by 82 – 96% - E85
- Genotoxic potentials dropped by 72 and 83%

# ETHANOL BLENDING EFFECT ON OCTANE NUMBER

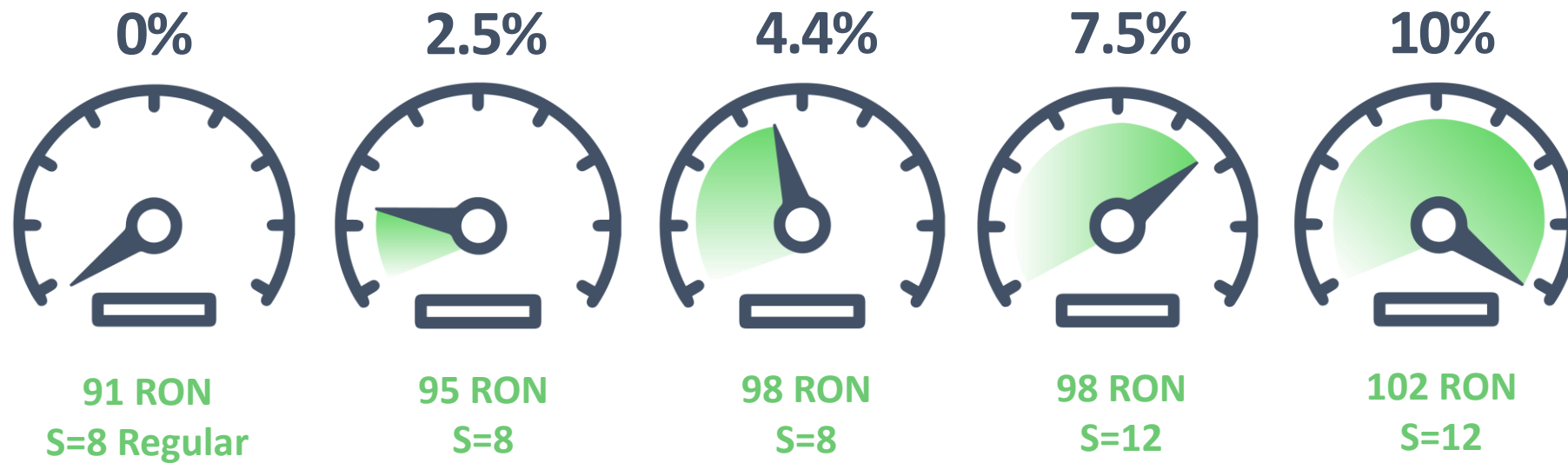


*Reproduced from Stein, SAE2012-01-1277*

# EFFECTS OF IMPROVING OCTANE PROPERTIES RON AND SENSITIVITY

**MON**-Motor Octane Number the original method to indicate knocking resistance.

For downsized, down speed (rpm) and high compression ratios engines **RON**-Research Octane Number is more representative



Gasoline Sensitivity ~ 8

Ethanol Sensitivity ~ 12

The sensitivity (RON-MON) became an important indicator of fuel properties for modern engines

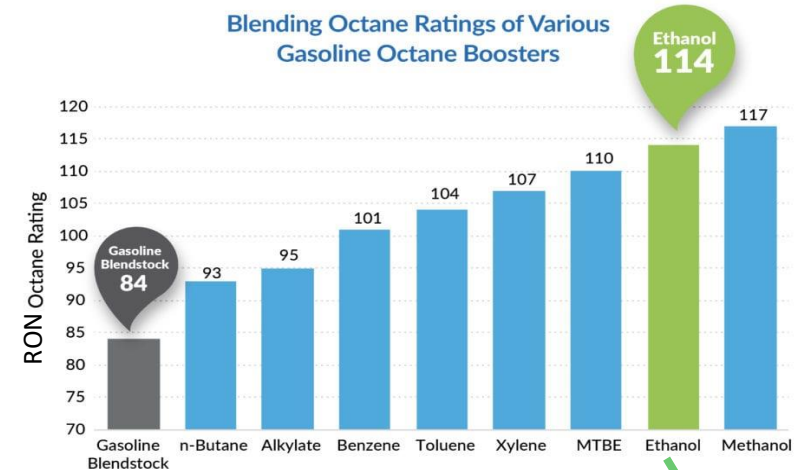
# HIGH OCTANE FUELS (HOF)

Higher than  
95RON

HIGHER OCTANE -> HIGHER  
COMPRESSION RATIOS ->  
INCREASE FUEL EFFICIENCY.  
ALLOW ENGINE  
DOWNSIZING AND DOWN  
SPEED TRENDS.

COMMON BOOSTERS TO  
OCTANE NUMBER:  
- INCREASE THE VOLUME  
OF GASOLINE  
AROMATICS (BTEX) OR  
- INCREASE THE VOLUME  
OF ETHANOL

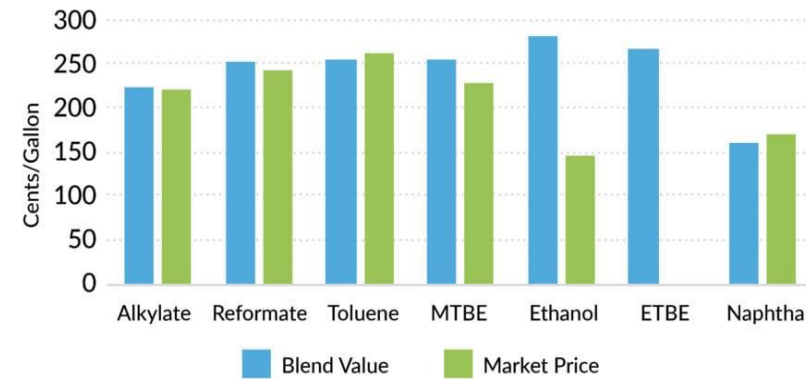
Blending Octane Ratings of Various  
Gasoline Octane Boosters



Source: Department of Energy

LOWER EMISSION and GHG

Octane Blending Value vs Market Price

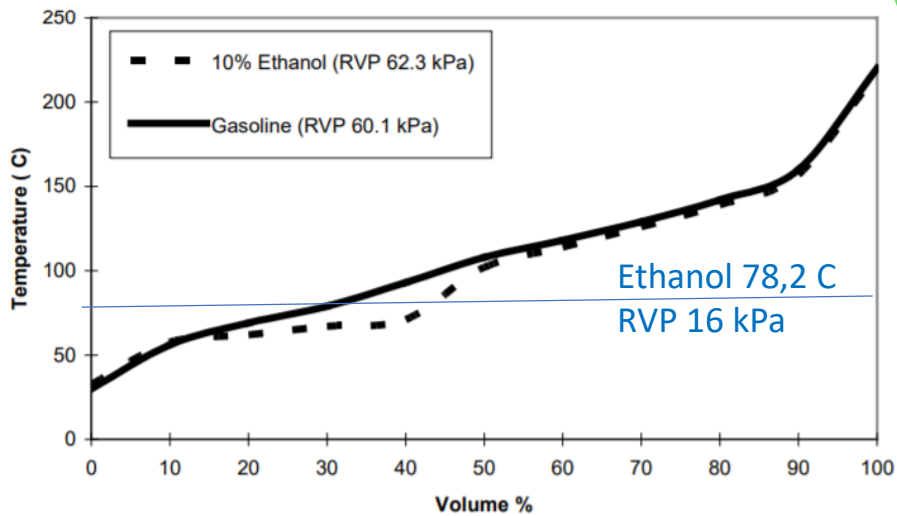


Source: Argus Media



# Differences between Gasoline and Ethanol Properties

## Distillation

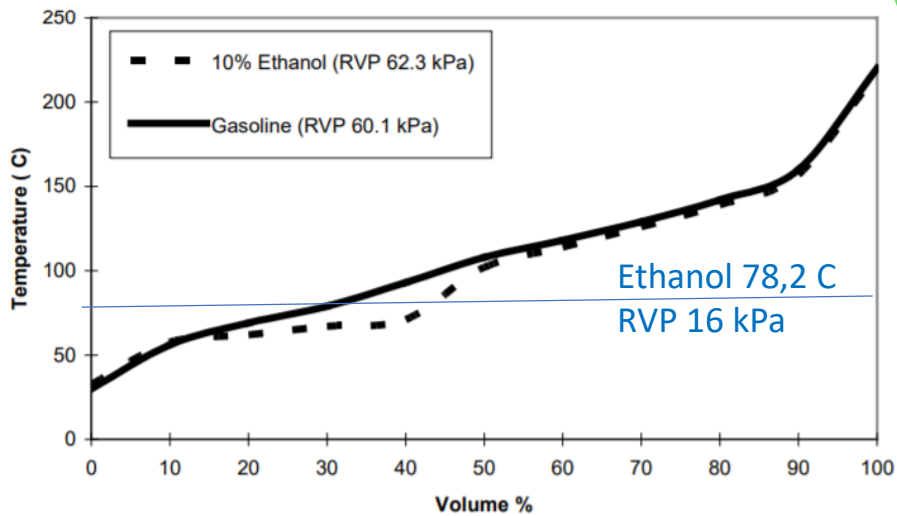


- Up to 10% by volume no effect on engine adjustment.
- Up to 20% combustion sensors must learn the new % and adjust it
- Current systems are able to control up to E25



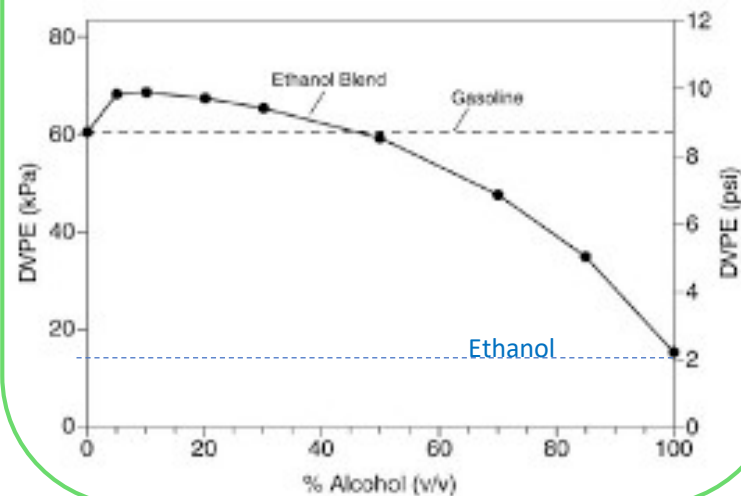
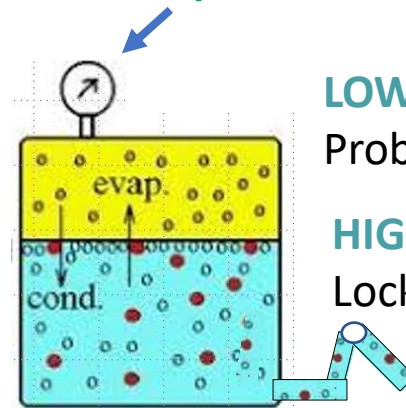
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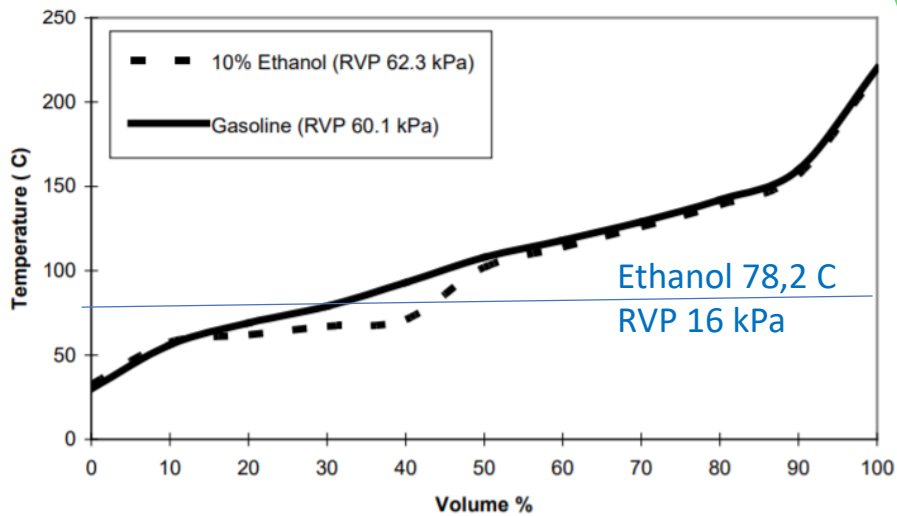
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## Vapor Pressure



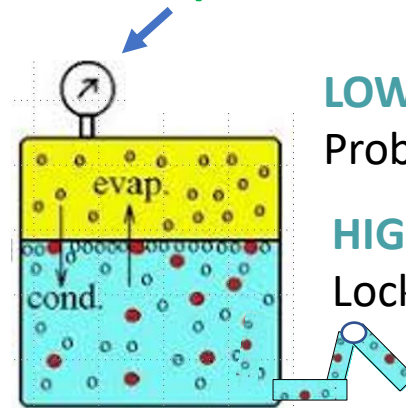
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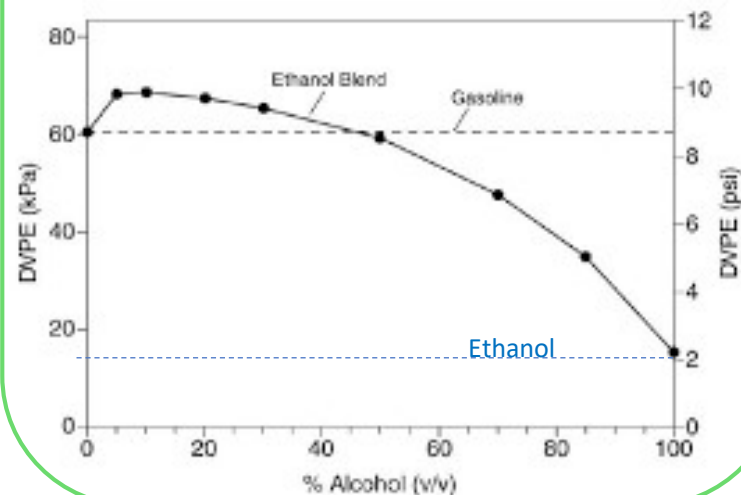
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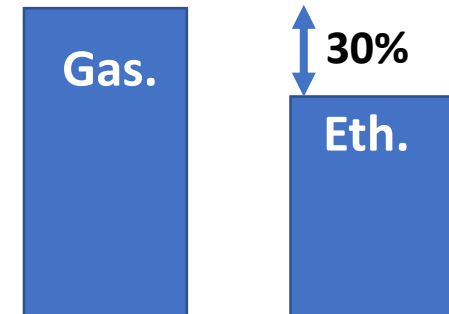


LOW-Cold Start Problems

HIGH -Vapor Lock



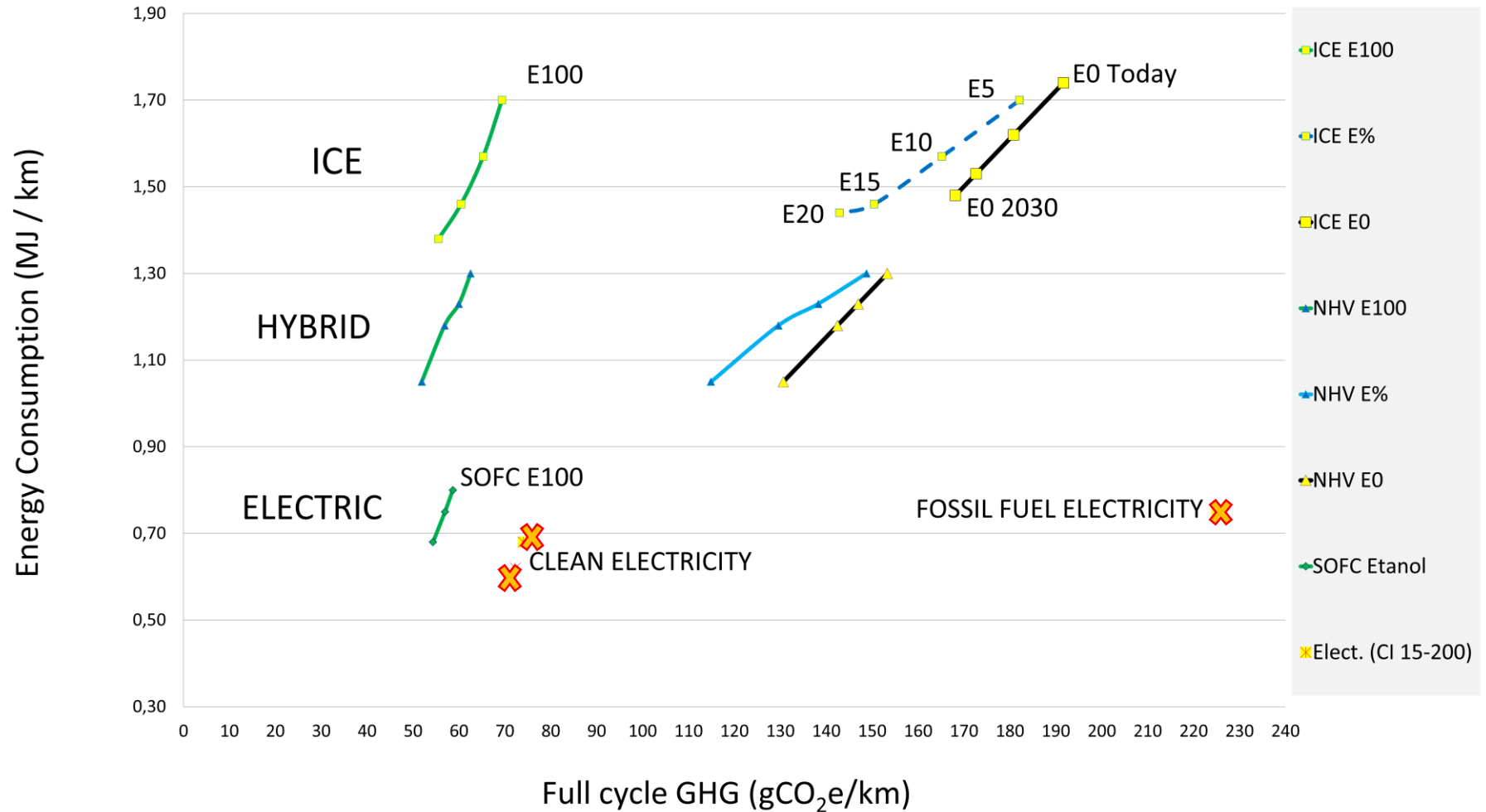
## Energy Content by Volume



- E blends lower energy is offset by the higher RON.
- Fleet vehicles RON 95->98 became 3% more efficient.
- Matching engine and vehicle E10~E30 achieved same range.

**ETHANOL BLENDS  
AND OTHER  
SOLUTIONS TO  
REDUCE  
MOBILITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACTS - GHG  
(Greenhouse Gas)**

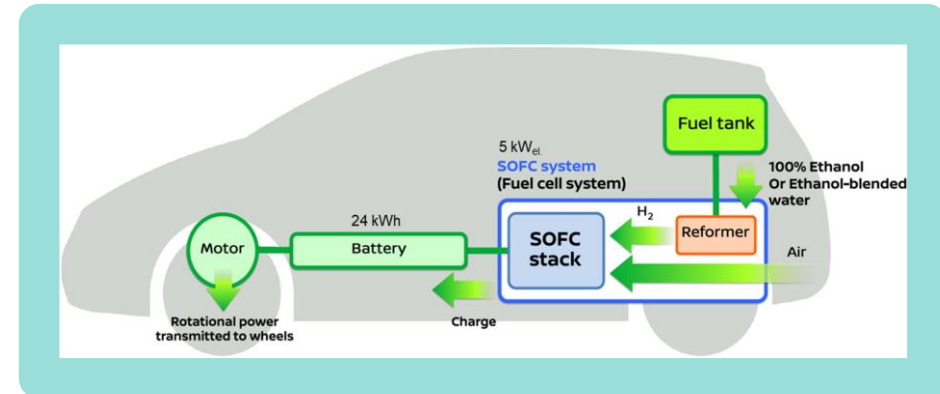
**Vehicle Full Cycle GHG= Well-to-Wheel GHG + (Vehicle + Battery Production) GHG (gCO<sub>2</sub>e/km)**





# FLEX HYBRID

## ELECTRIFICATION IS NOT "BATTERYZATION"



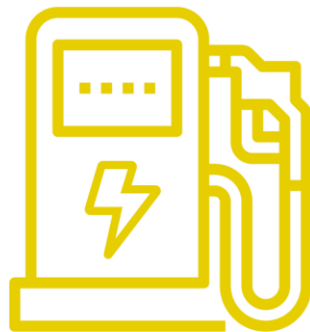
Ethanol is renewable "liquid hydrogen" when used in a Fuel Cell, eliminating the high cost cryogenic, titanium tank (700 bar)



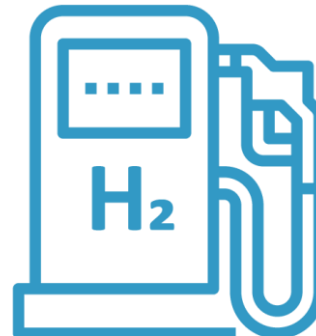
## ALL COMBINATIONS WILL BE NEEDED FOR A LOW CARB SOCIETY



HC



Elect.



H<sub>2</sub>



Bio

Ethanol  
allows a  
quick and  
sustainable  
transition

HC + Bio: extends fossil fuel use full life with lower GHG

HC + Elect.: with small battery reduces GHG by lowering HC consumption

Elect.+H<sub>2</sub>: Fuel Cell improves Electric cars GHG by reducing battery size

Elect.+H<sub>2</sub> + Bio: Ethanol Fuel Cell, renewable, efficient and low GHG

# ETHANOL HOF AS A QUICK TRANSITION TO A LOW CARBON SOCIETY

## Sustainable Energy Efficiency

- Consider GHG WTW
- Promote ethanol as Octane improver

## HOF Global Fuel

- Adoption of Exx (5-20%) high octane fuel (HOF)
- Global specs. for Exx HOF regular 95 RON and Premium 98 RON

## Exx HOF benefits for the new and current vehicles

- Count Exx as an immediate and effective CO<sub>2</sub> reduction action (Bioplatfrom)
- Develop Exx hybrids - low GHG small batteries

## Ethanol as bridge for Bioelectrification

- Ethanol FC combined w/ clean electric energy generation
- Ethanol in future hybrid solutions complementing bio electrification for Heavy Duty Vehicles



# SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY: ETHANOL TALKS INDIA

REALIZATION:



**BRAZIL**  
Sugarcane Bioenergy Solution



PROMOTION:



**ApexBrasil**

MINISTRY OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS



TECHNICAL SUPPORT

**DATAGRO**