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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ENGINE MANUFACTURERS DEVELOP FUEL SPECIFICATIONS TO PUSH FORWARD EVALUATION OF B20 BIODIESEL BLENDS

**CHICAGO, June 16, 2006**. The Engine Manufacturers Association (EMA) today announced the release of a test specification for biodiesel fuel to facilitate testing and evaluation of how blended biodiesel fuels perform in today's clean-burning diesel engines. The EMA specifications establish technical requirements for blends of petroleum fuel and biodiesel fuel that can be used to assess the effects of such biodiesel fuels on engine performance, durability and emissions.

The EMA specifications – Test Specifications for Biodiesel Fuel – defines a biodiesel blend fuel with the properties and characteristics that engine manufacturers believe are needed to ensure good performance in today's engines. Engine manufacturers consider the specifications a critical and necessary first step in further testing and evaluating fuel blends with biodiesel content greater than 5%.

"Engine manufacturers recognize that federal and state policy makers are evaluating the potential energy and air quality benefits that may be associated with the expanded use of high quality biodiesel fuel blends," said Jed Mandel, EMA President. "However, before the nation moves to increase the biodiesel content of the diesel fuel supply, engine manufacturers and biodiesel producers must fully evaluate biodiesel fuels. The development of a test specification for a blended fuel with 20% biodiesel content is intended to jump-start the testing and evaluation process."

"Today's diesel engines are 90% cleaner and also are more fuel efficient than those used just a decade ago, and on-highway engines slated for introduction in 2007 will reduce particulate and hydrocarbon emissions by another 90%", continued Mandel. "These high-performance, low-emitting diesels require high-performance fuels that meet exacting specifications and are of consistently high quality. Engine manufacturers need assurance that biodiesel blends are an acceptable fuel, and that their use in state-of-the-art engines does not have a negative impact on performance, durability, or the ability to meet near-zero emissions limit set by the US Environmental Protection Agency and the California Air Resources Board.

"Considering the tremendous investment that engine manufacturers and the nation have made to develop today's low-emitting and energy efficient diesel technology, we cannot just assume that biodiesel is better. We have to know that a biodiesel blend fuel meets all engine

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EMA European Office, C.P. 65, CH-1231 Conches, Switzerland Telephone: +41 22 784 3357 Facsimile +41 22 784 3349 requirements and its use results in equivalent performance and emissions. Our customers and the public deserve no less."

The EMA Test Specifications for Biodiesel Fuel establish a baseline B20 biodiesel blend that can be used for further testing and evaluation. EMA encourages vehicle owners interested in using biodiesel blends to request that the fuel meet the EMA specifications and that biodiesel fuel providers also produce blends meeting the EMA requirements and BQ 9000 production standards. Importantly, the EMA specifications are not an approved national fuel standard, and should not be used as such.

Mr. Mandel concluded, "EMA developed this specification as a means to support the nation's efforts to evaluate alternative energy sources, including biodiesel fuels. Fuels from domestically produced biomass can reduce the nation's demand for imported oil, expand markets for agricultural crops, and may favorably affect the emissions equation related to gases associated with global warming. Engine manufacturers look forward to working with the National Biodiesel Board and other stakeholders to further evaluate biodiesel fuels. We are hopeful that the additional research and evaluation of biodiesel fuels that meet the EMA B20 test specifications will speed the development of a national biodiesel blend fuel standard which assures satisfactory performance in all diesel engines."

The development and release of the EMA specification does not imply or constitute any endorsement or approval of the use of B20 biodiesel fuel in any engine or vehicle by EMA or its member companies. There are no quality or approval claims associated with any biodiesel fuel blend, including those that meet the test specifications identified by EMA.

As always, vehicle owners should check with the manufacturer before using any non-standard diesel fuel.

Copies of the Test Specification for Biodiesel Fuel can be found on the EMA website at <u>www.enginemanufacturers.org</u>.

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The Engine Manufacturers Association is a trade association representing worldwide manufacturers of internal combustion engines used in applications such as trucks and buses, farm and construction equipment, marine vessels, lawn, garden and utility equipment, and stationary generators. EMA works with government and industry stakeholders to help the nation achieve its goals of cleaner fuels, more efficient engines, and cleaner air.