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Ethanol Today™

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Endless Innovation:

Blazing the Trail to
Bio-Powered
Ethanol Plants





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In March 2007, Homestead-Miami Speedway hosted the inaugural race of the IndyCar® Series fuel switch to 100 percent American-made ethanol. This event marks one of many opportunities that the Indy Racing League (IRL) has created to promote the fuel.

The process to switch the Indy Racing League's official fuel to ethanol was initiated in 2001 by the late Paul Dana. Dana had a vision for using renewable energy in the United States, and ethanol soon became the main component of that plan. He contacted ACE to discuss sponsoring a car in the IRL's Infiniti Pro Series and to ask about the organization's interest in changing IRL's fuel to ethanol.

Discussions with Jeff Broin, Ron Fagen, and Dave Vander Griend then led to the formation of Team Ethanol. After success with Hemelgarn Johnson Motorsports in 2004, Team Ethanol joined the IRL IndyCar® Series.

Its success in the IRL bolstered support for the idea of a fuel switch. In March 2005 the IndyCar® Series announced the decision to transition from methanol to ethanol through a 10 percent blend during the 2006 season and 100 percent ethanol fuel in the 2007 season.

"When consumers choose ethanol at the pump, they are choosing homegrown, renewable, clean burning fuel. Now when consumers choose ethanol, they are also choosing the same fuel that powers the Indy 500," Jennings said. "This is yet another reason that ethanol is increasingly becoming America's fuel of choice."

