Tranzinfo HotTopic

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Alternative Fuels

A selection of recent publications and resources on alternative fuels.

Contact your organisation's library to obtain copies of those items not available online.

1. 2006 American guide to biofuels and bioenergy, biodiesel, ethanol, USDA and energy department research, alternative fuels

Progressive Management: Mount Laurel, New Jersey, 2005

149 pages

This book and DVD-ROM set present a collection of US federal government documents, reports, and publications about research and promotion of biofuels, including biomass, biodiesel, biopower, ethanol and hydrogen.

2. Alternative fuels and electric vehicle technology

Lang D

Spirit Publications: Tucson, Arizona, 2005

50 pages

An overview of various alternative fuels and propulsion systems is offered in this publication. A strong case for the use of alcohol fuels as a substitute is given on the basis that it is derived from agricultural products and it is renewable, sustainable and more energy efficient to produce than petroleum.

3. Alternative fuels begin to look economic

TransScan, February 2006

Pages 3-6

Series of articles under the heading of fuel trends. Looks at the rising price of petrol as instrumental in bringing about the change to alternative fuels. Discusses national and international policies for petrol alternatives.

4. Alternative Fuels Data Center

United States Department of Energy, 2006

The Alternative Fuels Data Center was established in the United States in 1991. It is described as "... a vast collection of information on alternative fuels and the vehicles that use them. Alternative fuels described here are those defined by the Energy Policy Act of 1992, including biodiesel, electricity, ethanol, hydrogen, natural gas, and propane. This site has more than 3,000 documents in its database, an interactive fuel station mapping system, current listings of available alternative fuel vehicles, and lots of alternative fuels information and related links." Item online (accessed 16 May 2006) at: Click here

5. Alternative transportation fuels: issues and developments

Sparrow JC

Nova Science: New York, 2003

168 pages

Contributed papers cover United States legislative approaches to alternative fuels such as tax treatments, and how these can affect the fuel economy and the environment. Emphasis is also placed on vehicle type and emissions in some papers.

6. Beyond oil: the view from Hubbert's Peak

Deffeyes KF

Hill and Wang: New York, 2005

202 pages

Looks at M. King Hubbert's prediction of oil supply in the 1950's and 1970's to see how this has become a reality. Argues that the world's oil production has peaked in 2005 and that the decline will start to escalate from 2006. Discusses alternative options and their likely production futures using the same methodology employed by Hubbert.

7. Biofuels for transport: an international perspective

International Energy Agency: Paris, 2004

210 pages

This book takes a global perspective in the use of biofuels and reviews recent research and experience in a number of areas including the impact on petroleum use, greenhouse gas emissions, costs of biofuels, compatibility with vehicles and environmental impacts. Looks at how the world can maximize on the benefits of biofuel production over the next 10 years.

8. Economics of a Queensland ethanol industry

Urbanchuk JM, Barker G, and Well W

28 pages

Queensland Department of State Development and Innovation: Brisbane, 2005
An assessment of the economic potential of producing ethanol in Queensland which was prepared for the Queensland Department of State Development and Innovation.
Item online (accessed 16 May 2006): Click here

9. Future fuel: what will power vehicles of the future?

Lawson J

Traffic Technology International Annual Review, 2005

Pages 34-38

Forecasts that in the short to medium term we may see a steady increase in the use of hybrids operating on bio–fuels instead of diesel or petrol. Lower fuel taxes for bio–fuels and an image change are also critical factors in the success of these fuels.

10. International ethanol conference: ethanol - the smart way forward, Brisbane 2005

Queensland Department of State Development and Innovation: Brisbane Over three hundred national and international industry leaders attended the 2005 conference. The overall position is a positive outlook for the ethanol industry on a global and national scale. The 2006 conference is currently being held at the time of production and the papers will be available via the link below, which also offers access to the 2005 presentations. Item online (accessed 16 May 2006): Click here

11. Lessons learned from alternative transportation fuels: modeling transition dynamics

Welch C

National Renewable Energy Laboratory: Golden, Colorado, United States, 2006 29 pages

Described as providing an "... understanding how analytical system modeling and data from AFV [alternative fuel vehicle] experiences could improve our understanding of the dynamic forces governing the transition to a hydrogen future."

Item online (accessed 16 May 2006): Click here

12. Report of the biofuels taskforce to the Prime Minister

Biofuels Taskforce: Canberra, 2005

240 pages

The Taskforce finds that the Federal Government's 350 megalitre target may not be met by 2010 due to considerable market barriers. Low consumer confidence and high commercial risk are cited as two of the barriers. Biofuels are defined as ethanol and biodiesel in pure and blended form. The report encourages more targeted promotion of these fuels to increase consumer acceptance. Assessment is based on reports by ABARE and ACIL Tasman for the Taskforce.

Item online (accessed 16 May 2006): Click here

13. Potential for biofuels for transport in developing countries

Kojima M, Johnson T

The World Bank: Washington D.C., 2005

240 pages

This report outlines what commercial technologies could be adopted in developing countries over the next 10 years that will assist in the domestic production of biofuels for transport and help stimulate the rural economy.

Item online (accessed 16 May 2006): Click here

14. Renewable Fuels Association

RFA: Washington D.C.

The Renewable Fuels Association (RFA) was founded in the United States in 1981 with a role to promote "... policies, regulations and research and development initiatives that will lead to the increased production and use of fuel ethanol. RFA membership includes a broad cross-section of businesses, individuals and organizations dedicated to the expansion of the U.S. fuel ethanol industry."

Item online (accessed 16 May 2006): Click here

15. Shuck the shelks: replacing bloody Middle Eastern oil with clean domestic ethanol

Zacharias AP

iUniverse: Lincoln, New England, 2005

126 pages

Argues for the positive environmental and economic uses of ethanol as opposed to importing oil into America. The author has worked over fourteen years in various financial and consulting capacities for major companies in the US.

16. Transitioning to a hydrogen future: learning from the alternative fuels experience

Melendez M

National Renewable Energy Laboratory: Golden, Colorado, United States, 2006 20 pages

Based upon knowledge from the alternative fuels sector this paper recommends appropriate strategies to transition the use of hydrogen into the transportation environment.

Item online (accessed 16 May 2006): Click here

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