



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Demand for E85 in Shoals leads to second station

Flex-fuel vehicle owners help make second station possible

(Florence, AL) – Six short months after Quik Mart Convenience Stores opened the first station in Northwest Alabama to offer E85 ethanol, a second station is now open at 358 Cox Creek Parkway in Florence that offers flexible-fuel drivers this domestically produced alternative fuel.

“We really have to thank the people of the Shoals for making the station and E85 a success thus far,” said Jonathan Edwards, President of Quik Mart Convenience Stores. “It’s great to know that the community is supportive of an alternative to traditional gasoline, especially with everything going on with the oil spill in the Gulf right now.”

According to Edwards, the low price of E85 ethanol as compared to gasoline had helped to drive some of the business during the first few months the station was open. Since then, much of the sales have been attributed to the advantages of E85.

“We have a pretty good understanding of the E85 ethanol market,” said Edwards. “People care about the environment, they care about national security, and they care that the money they spend on fuel is reinvested in our domestic economy. If you give them a reasonably priced alternative, such as E85 ethanol, people will do their part to help out.”

Family-owned since its founding in 1945, Edwards Oil Company, parent company of Quik Mart Convenience Stores of Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, has dabbled in renewable fuels since the 1970s. Over the years, the family kept an eye on opportunities to offer their consumers more choices in refueling their vehicles with alternative products that are kinder to the environment *and* put more dollars back into local economies. With the opening of the Cox Creek Parkway station, the company now has five stations that provide E85 ethanol, including three in Tennessee, one in Muscle Shoals, and the newest one in Florence.

Officials with the Alabama Clean Fuels Coalition—the principal coordinating point for alternative transportation fuels in the state—say they have seen a dramatic increase in the development of ethanol infrastructure and use in Alabama.

"We congratulate and commend Quik Mart Convenience Stores and the people of the Shoals for making the second station possible. E85 ethanol has increased dramatically across the state," Mark Bentley, Executive Director of the Alabama Clean Fuels Coalition stated. "In 2006, there were no public stations pumping E85 ethanol in the state. Last year, considering both public and private stations, E85 ethanol displaced over 700,000 gallons of traditional gasoline in the State of Alabama. There are now 13 public stations making E85 ethanol available to the general public."

Edwards Oil Company owns and operates forty-one Quik Mart Convenience Stores, fourteen of which are located in Northwest Alabama (Colbert, Lauderdale, Lawrence and Limestone Counties) with the other twenty-seven located in the south-central portion of middle Tennessee.

Although ethanol and biodiesel have been around for years, these plant-derived, renewable fuels have made major quality improvements over the last several decades. While a gallon of E85 ethanol produces less energy, measured in BTUs, than a gallon of gasoline, benefits of E85 include higher octane and increased torque and horsepower to go along with reduced ozone forming emissions.

Drivers should be aware that E85 ethanol is only to be used in flexible-fuel vehicles specially designed for using the fuel. In the 2010 model year there are approximately 68 models of flexible-fuel vehicles offered by the major car manufacturers.

QUIK MART CONVENIENCE STORES E85 ALABAMA LOCATIONS:

Shell Quik Mart #40 (NEW STATION)
358 Cox Creek Parkway
Florence, AL 35630
256-767-4596
Open 24 hours

Shell Quik Mart #41
532 East Second Street
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661
256-383-7525
Open 24 hours

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The Alabama Clean Fuels Coalition, a non-profit membership based organization, is the state's principal coordinating point for alternative fuels and a member of the U.S. Department of Energy's Clean Cities program. The promotion of clean, renewable, domestic energy sources helps reduce our dependence on foreign oil, improves local air quality, and increases economic development opportunities in our local communities. For more information, please visit our website at www.AlabamaCleanFuels.org or call us directly at 205-402-2755.