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|  | **PRESS RELEASE** |

**Eight inspected fuel samples failed in January**

***(Prague, 23 February 2021)* The Czech Trade Inspection Authority kept inspecting the quality of fuels in 2021. In January, it took 230 samples and 8 samples did not meet the quality requirements. Violations of the applicable legislation resulted in a ban on sale of 16,400.75 litres of fuel in the value of CZK 372,051.23.**

The Czech Trade Inspection Authority has monitored the quality of fuels in the Czech Republic for a long time. In January of this year, it took 230 fuel samples and 8 samples inspected didn‘t meet the quality requirements, representing 3.5% of the non-compliant samples within the overall evaluation.

Samples of FAME, diesel fuel blend, B10 diesel, diesel with high FAME content, paraffin diesel, bio-CNG, LNG and bio-LNG were not taken in January 2021, due to developments in the fuel market.

In the overall assessment and comparison of the quality of the fuel samples taken in January 2021 compared to December 2020, a deterioration was observed from 0.8% to 3.5% of non-compliant samples. The biggest deterioration was in diesel (from 1.5% to 4.5%) and LPG samples (from 0.0% to 6.7%) in January 2021.



**Automotive petrol**

A total of 84 samples of automotive petrol were collected and inspected by the Czech Trade Inspection Authority in January 2021., 1 of this number of samples taken did not meet the quality requirements of the applicable technical standard. The inspected sample failed the quality parameter "end of distillation", where the measured value of this quality parameter was 222.5°C (maximum value is 214.0°C when measurement uncertainty in taken into account). Other inspected and analysed samples of automotive petrol met the quality parameters set out in the technical standard ČSN EN 228+A1/Z1/O2 – Motor fuels – Unleaded petrol – Technical requirements and test methods in connection with the requirements of Decree 516/2020 Coll., on fuel requirements and implementation of certain other provisions of the Act on Fuels.

**Diesel**

In January 2021, the Czech Trade Inspection Authority took and inspected a total of 112 diesel samples. Of this number of samples taken and inspected, 5 samples did not meet the quality requirements of the relevant technical standard. The inspected diesel samples did not meet the quality parameters "FAME (fatty acid methyl esters)", where the measured value of this quality parameter was 8.0% V/V in one case and 9.3% V/V in the other case (maximum value is of 7.3% V/V when measurement uncertainty is taken into account). Furthermore, it failed the quality parameter "CFPP (filterability temperature)", where the measured value of this quality parameter was -4°C (maximum value is -18°C, when measurement uncertainty is taken into account) and in the quality parameter "oxidation stability", where the measured value of this quality parameter was 488 g/m3 in one case, and 498 g/m3 in the other case (maximum value is 33 g/m3 when measurement uncertainty is taken into account). In the case of the second non-compliant finding for the parameter "oxidation stability", it was a verification analysis. The other diesel samples inspected and analysed met the quality parameters set out in the technical standard ČSN EN 590+A1 – Motor fuels – Diesel – Technical requirements and test methods, in connection with the requirements of Decree 516/2020 Coll., on fuel requirements and implementation of certain other provisions of the Act on Fuels.

**LPG**

In January 2021, the Czech Trade Inspection Authority took and inspected a total of 30 LPG samples. Of this number of samples taken and inspected, 2 samples did not meet the quality requirements of the applicable technical standard. The LPG samples inspected did not meet the quality parameter "sulphur", where the measured value of this quality parameter was 166,4 mg/kg in one case and 181,7 mg/kg in the other case (maximum value is 31,1 mg/kg when measurement uncertainty is taken into account). The remaining LPG samples inspected and analysed met the quality parameters set out in technical standard ČSN EN 589 – Motor fuels – Liquified petroleum gases (LPG) – Technical requirements and testing methods in connection with the requirements of Decree 516/2020 Coll., on fuel requirements and implementation of certain other provisions of the Act on Fuels.

**Biofuels in fuels**

In the monitored period the content of fatty acid methyl esters was inspected in 112 diesel samples. Laboratory analyses have determined that the permissible upper limit of the biofuel content of 2 diesel samples has been exceeded. The ethanol content in automotive petrol was inspected in 84 samples. Laboratory analysis showed that the upper limit of the content of bio-constituents wasn’t exceeded in any diesel fuel sample.

**Measures taken**

In January 2021, in three cases the Czech Trade Inspection Authority prohibited the sale of fuel that did not meet the quality and composition requirements laid down in the implementing legislation, specific legislation and Czech technical standards. The measure was imposed on 16,400.75 litres of fuel in the value amounting to CZK 372,051.23.

Inspection results by inspectorates:



Legend: COLL = collected, N = noncompliant

Attachments: No. 1 - Monitoring and monitoring of fuels quality – September 2020 (2 pages)

No. 2 - Monitoring and monitoring of fuels quality – January to September 2020 (2 pages)