



## ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES SERVICES DIVISION

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## ETHANOL FLEX FUEL LABELING REQUIREMENTS

ASTM International, the industry organization responsible for developing motor fuel specifications, has made significant changes to its ASTM D5798 specification for the motor fuel known as E85. The new specification, including those changes, was adopted by the State of Arizona upon passage of House Bill 2171 and became effective on August 8, 2016.

The need for the new specification was rooted in the inability of producers and blenders of E85, locally and on a national level, to meet the minimum vapor pressure requirements. The new ASTM standard eliminates the term E85, replacing it with the term **Ethanol Flex Fuel**. The standard provides for a greatly reduced ethanol content (to a minimum of 51%) to provide flexibility in production while ensuring optimal vehicle performance, depending upon the seasonal and geographic use of Ethanol Flex Fuel blends.

The state's adoption of the most recent ASTM D5798 specification replaces E85 with Ethanol Flex Fuel, and, by extension, results in the need for owners or operators of fueling facilities which sell or offer for sale Ethanol Flex Fuel to relabel motor fuel dispensers in accordance with the requirements of 16 Code of Federal Regulations Part 306. An example of an applicable dispenser label is provided below and specific details for the labels is attached.



Arizona Administrative Code (AAC) R3-7-713 also requires the motor fuel storage tank to be labeled to identify the contents accurately as "Ethanol Flex Fuel." If the tank fill lids are color-coded for the product, they should be accurately color-coded per API 1637. For questions, email [dwm@azda.gov](mailto:dwm@azda.gov) or call 602-771-4920.

## **LABEL SPECIFICATIONS EXERPT FROM 16 CODE OF REGULATIONS PART 306**

### **16 CFR 306.12**

#### **Layout**

(3) *For alternative liquid automotive fuel labels (two components).* The label is 3 inches (7.62 cm) wide × 2 1/2 inches (6.35 cm) long. “Helvetica Black” or equivalent type is used throughout. All type is centered. The band at the top of the label contains the name of the fuel. This band should measure 1 inch (2.54 cm) deep. Spacing of the fuel name is 1/4 inch (.64 cm) from the top of the label and 3/16 inch (.48 cm) from the bottom of the black band, centered horizontally within the black band. The first line of type beneath the black band is 3/16 inch (.48 cm) from the bottom of the black band. All type below the black band is centered horizontally, with 1/8 inch (.32 cm) between each line. The bottom line of type is 1/4 inch (.64 cm) from the bottom of the label. All type should fall no closer than 3/16 inch (.48 cm) from the side edges of the label. If you wish to change the dimensions of this two component label to accommodate additional fuel components, you must petition the Federal Trade Commission. You can do this by writing to the Secretary of the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20580. You must state the size and contents of the label that you wish to use, and the reasons that you want to use it.

#### **Type Size and Setting**

(3) *For alternative liquid automotive fuel labels (two components).* All type should be set in upper case (all caps) “Helvetica Black” or equivalent type throughout. Helvetica Black is available in a variety of computer desk-top and phototype setting systems. Its name may vary, but the type must conform in style and thickness to the sample provided here. The spacing between letters and words should be set as “normal.” The type for the fuel name is 50 point (1/2 inch (1.27 cm) cap height) “Helvetica Black,” knocked out of a 1 inch (2.54 cm) deep band. All other type is 24 point (1/4 inch (.64 cm) cap height).

#### **Color**

(2) *For alternative liquid automotive fuel labels other than biodiesel and biodiesel blends.* The background color on all the labels is Orange: PMS 1495 or its equivalent. The knock-out type within the black band is Orange: PMS 1495 or its equivalent. All other type is process black. All borders are process black. All colors must be non-fade.

#### **Special Label Protection**

(e) *Special label protection.* All labels must be capable of withstanding extremes of weather conditions for a period of at least one year. They must be resistant to automotive fuel, oil, grease, solvents, detergents, and water.