

Unleaded Aviation Gasoline Avgas today and tomorrow



Aviation Gasoline Today

Avgas 100LL

- ▶ For all piston-engine aircrafts
- ▶ Worldwide specifications : ASTM D 910
- ▶ Tried-and-tested product (first introduced in 1947)
- ▶ Existing Avgas production & Distribution infrastructure



But,

- ▶ Only 2 majors producing Avgas 100LL in Europe + 2 regional players
- ▶ Evolution of regulations towards lead free aviation gasoline



Aviation Gasoline Evolution



ASTM D 910 specifies a maximum content for TEL in 100LL AVGAS but no minimum → options for reducing lead emissions

Avgas 100 « ULL »

- ▶ Reduction of lead content in 100LL (-10% to -25%) => decision 2011
- ▶ Same specifications as 100LL
- ▶ Same marketing and logistic
- ▶ No change for the market



Aviation Gasoline Tomorrow



Unleaded Aviation Gasoline : UL??

- ▶ **1st. scenario : intermediary grade between 100LL and the new UL91**
 - Engine manufacturers to adapt engines to a MON<100 (targetted : MON 94)
 - Long process to adapt and approve the existing aircrafts fleet
 - Technically possible towards 2015
 - 100LL progressively disappearing till 2020-2025
- ▶ **2nd. scenario : grade replacing 100LL**
 - Nearly no need to adapt engines
 - Faster switch from 100LL to this new grade
 - But still many problems to meet all 100LL specifications ...



Unleaded Aviation Gasoline evolution

Background

- ▶ **EPA** (US. Environmental Protection Agency) put pressure to eliminate the use of lead.
 - But it's very difficult to reach **Avgas 100LL specifications** without lead at competitive price
- ▶ **GAMA** (US. General Aviation Manufacturer Association) propose a transition period to get to an unleaded gasoline with suitable fittings of existing engines.
 - => to find a consensus around MON 94 (different positions from engine manufacturers !)
 - => to target MON 100 but with new ASTM specifications (heavy procedure for aviation !)
- ▶ **SWIFT Ltd.** propose a MON 102 product
 - New components to be tested
 - No industrial production (availability and cost of new components ?)
 - Long process to get ASTM specifications



General Aviation Piston Powered Fleet is a key factor for any change

- ▶ US represents 2/3 of the total worldwide piston fleet and remain leader for any evolution in general aviation
- ▶ The US piston fleet consists of 190 000 aircraft
- ▶ 44 % of GA fleet requires a minimum grade 100LL for both performance and knock protection

A decision to stop marketing Avgas 100LL cannot be taken without a credible alternative in the market and several years notice are necessary.

A lot of works is done by all parties to find the best alternative but the process will be long anyway and Avgas 100LL will remain available in the meantime.



**Unleaded Aviation Gasoline
for aircrafts powered by Rotax engine**

Avgas UL 91



**Avgas UL 91
PleinVol**
June 2010





**Why Total is launching Avgas UL 91 ?
ULM market first...**



- ▶ **To bring a technical solution*** supported on the approval of an **international spécification** (ASTM D7547)**
 - Lead in avgas 100LL may generate maintenance overcosts on Rotax engines.
 - ** A 91/96 UL grade is marketed by Hjelmo in Sweden with own spécifications but with the approval of some engine manufacturers (Lycoming, Rotax).
- ▶ **To capitalise on Quality and Safety** of our products among the **endusers, engine manufacturers and federations**
- ▶ **To be prepared** for the future lead free high octane gasoline



Avgas UL 91 - Current Steps

- ▶ New **ASTM D7547** issued nov. 2009 for grade UL91 and revised April 2010
- ▶ Approved by Rotax : Avgas UL 91 meeting ASTM D7547 is now included in the Rotax Service Instruction. (document intended to their customers)
- ▶ EASA (European Aviation Safety Agency) should publish a Safety Information Bulletin on the ASTM D7547 Aviation gasoline

TOTAL Avgas UL 91 will be marketed in 2011



Avgas UL 91 main characteristics

1. **MON 91**
 - higher performances than automotive gasoline
MON 85 for SP95
MON 87 for SP98
 - to meet the new international specification ASTM D7547
 - ASTM D7547 is the future reference for the military requirements
 - Colour of Avgas UL 91 : **Orange**
2. **No bio-components**
 - not accepted in the ASTM7547
4. **Vapor pressure same as for 100LL**
5. **Contain only Aviation approved additives**
6. **Guaranteed minimum energy onboard**
7. **Same source of components for UL 91 and 100LL**



Avgas UL 91 FAQ

- ▶ **Avgas UL 91 vs automotive gasoline (SP's)**
 - real aviation gasoline with international ASTM specification
 - except octane index, all technical specs same as 100LL
 - stable vapor pressure over the year (more variations for SP's)
 - quality control as severe as for 100LL to prevent from contamination
 - additives approved by aircraft engine manufacturers
 - freezing point -58°C not required for SP's (risk of filter lock)
 - no bio-components, **evolutive bio contents** in SP's
 - control on the energy/distance factor, **various components** in SP's
 - control on gums and corrosion, **less severe** for SP's



Avgas UL 91 FAQ

- ▶ Octane number 91 vs octane number 95 or 98 for SP's
 - four octane index with four different results :
RON (test F1), MON (test F2),
aviation test F3 and Performance nr (test F4) in aviation
 - MON 91 vs MON 85 for SP95
MON 91 vs MON 87 for SP98
 - huge difference between MON 91 and 85
 - higher performances for engines switching from MON 85 to 91



Avgas UL 91 FAQ

- ▶ Why an aviation grade ? I can fly easy with SP95 or SP98
 - avgas UL 91 : more constraints but technically safer
 - example of information letter from Dyn'Aero dated 04/09/2009 :
 - « The trend seems to be oriented to a significant increase of the alcohol content in non-aviation gasolines and the presence of such components (alcohols) may
 - ↳ spoil tank gasket quality
 - ↳ spoil gasoline hose gaskets
 - ↳ encourage water presence
 - ↳ increase the risk of vapor-lock and reduce flying autonomy.Some authorities in Europe and in the US have taken disposition to reduce or prohibit the use of non-aviation fuels in aircrafts ».



Avgas UL 91 FAQ

- ▶ Do all aircraft types accept avgas UL 91 ?
 - NO
 - pilots have to respect the safety instructions issued by the engine and aircraft manufacturers
 - to date, only ROTAX recommends Avgas UL 91
 - to date, EASA recommends avgas UL 91 for aircrafts with ROTAX engines.

