

## For Immediate Release

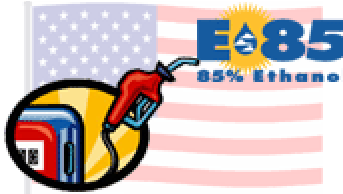
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## McChord Air Force Base to Open E85 Pump



McChord Air Force Base in Washington will be celebrating the opening of their Alternative Fuels Service Station at 8 a.m. on Friday, November 15, 2002. The station will carry the alternative fuels biodiesel and E85.

"We were using CNG, but we had to drive five miles to Pierce County Transit to fill up," said SMSgt Michael A. Holgate, Fuels Manager at the base. "By the time you drove there and back, you only had half a tank left!" It was an easy decision to install the E85 pump.

"The fleet manager came to me and asked about the possibility of getting E85," said Holgate. "At about the same time, headquarters was pumping information out about alternative fuels and asked who wanted to be a test base. We volunteered immediately."

The cost to modify the existing refueling station with both E85 and biodiesel was about \$68,000. A 12,000 fiberglass tank was converted to store the clean, alternative fuel – E85. This domestically grown fuel contains 85% ethanol and 15% gasoline.

Over two million vehicles on the road today can run on the renewable fuel. McChord has twenty-one E85 compatible vehicles on base with a projected acquisition of 85 more. For a complete listing of flexible fuel vehicles available today, visit [www.E85Fuel.com](http://www.E85Fuel.com).

"The only difficult part right now is the logistics of getting E85 here. It has to be trucked from Idaho which takes a couple days. This also makes small delivery quantities hard to negotiate. Most vendors will not make a trip like that for 1,000 gallons," commented Holgate.

The E85 pump is already in use and hooked up to the base's key activated dispensing system. "That means well over 50% of the fleet is running on alternative fuels at McChord!" exclaimed Holgate.

The November 15 Grand Opening Event's attendees will consist of GSA representatives, the local E85 Commission and McChord base officials.