

VEGGIE OIL – FUEL OF THE FUTURE!

Do you want fries with that? This may be a familiar question around fast food restaurants, but the Power Systems Rental department sees another opportunity all together. On April 23, 2006, Fabick Power Systems Rental actually produced 60kW of power for the St. Louis Earth Day Festival using refined fryer oil, commonly known as "veggie oil."

The St. Louis Earth Day organization approached the Rental Power Team regarding the alternative fuel only one month in advance. "We wanted to try it in a machine on the load bank prior to the event, just in case it didn't work," said Chuck Justus, Power Systems Rental Manager. "Not only did the machine hold load, but all the guys in the shop started getting hungry!" The fuel alternative, when ran through a diesel engine, puts off an odor of what was cooked in it. In the case of the generators used for the 2006 St. Louis Earth Day Festival, french fries were the familiar smell coming from the two Caterpillar XQ30's.

With diesel fuel prices reaching all time highs, you can bet the search for alternative fuels will increase. "We have had two other events contact us about using bio diesel, or refined cooking oil, in our machines for their events," says Justus. "It will be interesting to see where this technology takes our business."

If you would like more information on bio fuel, an interesting power alternative, visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/biodieselstl>

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