











To Go Green, add a bit of Blue!





# Quality System for AdBlue and Bypass of SCR System

Presented by

Mr. Varun Agrawal

**Director and CEO** 

NPL BlueSky Automotive Pvt Ltd



November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023



#### Contents

- About NPL and NPL BlueSky Automotive Pvt Ltd
- AdBlue / DEF : Current Scenario in India
- Quality Standards for AdBlue/DEF
- Failures associated with sub standard quality of AdBlue/ DEF.
- Measures by Developed countries to overcome sub standard quality.
- Upcoming concern : Cheat Technology Bypass of SCR Systems
- Way forward





NPL BlueSky Automotive Pvt Ltd is a Technical Joint Venture between Nandan Petrochem Ltd and KRUSE Automotive GmbH, Germany to manufacture and market AdBlue (AUS32/DEF) in India

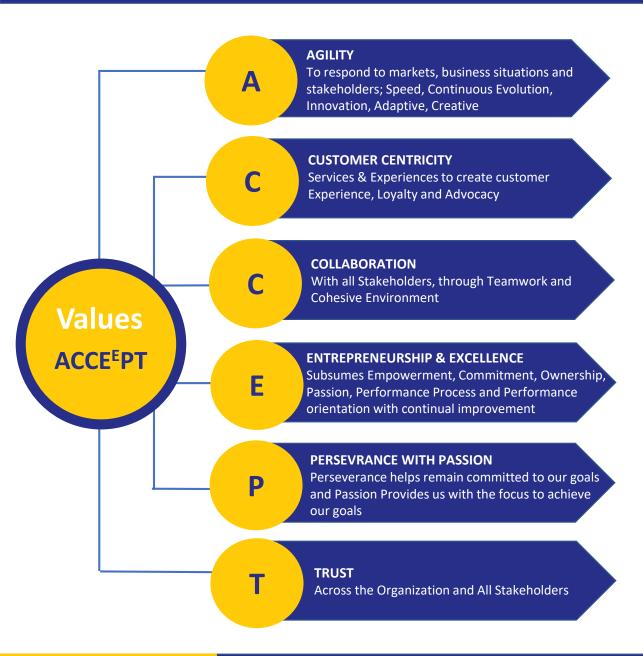
As early as in 2011, when India decided to implement BS IV in 13 cities, NPL BlueSky Automotive commissioned the AdBlue manufacturing plant in India.





Thereby, today the pioneer and largest manufacturer of AdBlue in India.







#### **Vision**

"We at Nandan Group as a responsible Corporate, aim to be a preferred Partner delivering stakeholder value in all our endeavours"

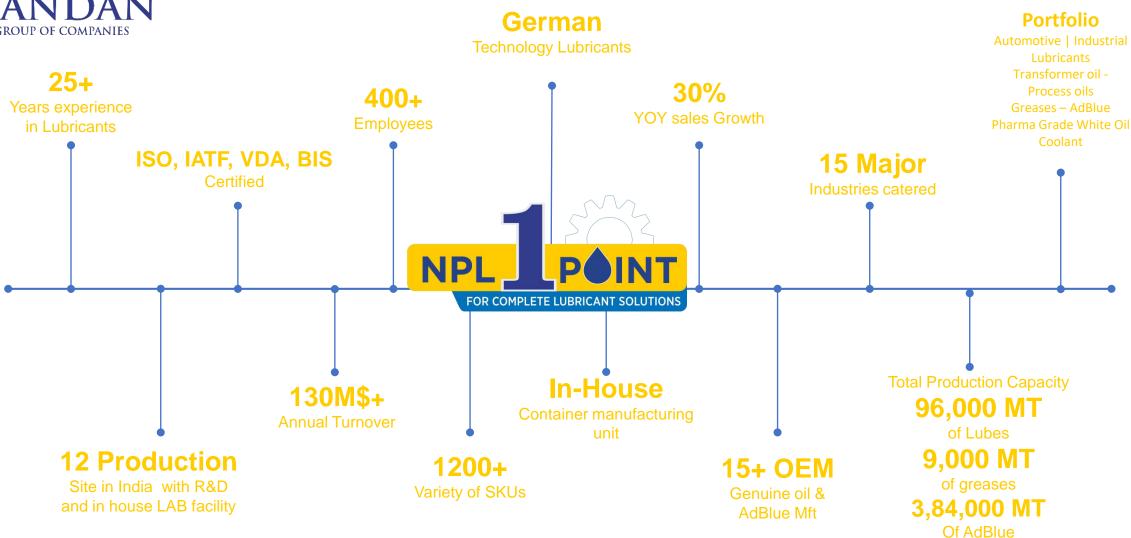




"We believe in providing solutions to make "Effort Effortless" and superior experience for "Contemporary Mobility









## NPL BlueSky Journey So Far...

2011

Company incorporated & first plant set up.

2012 >>>

2013 - 16 >>>

2017

>>>

Started working with Tata Motors OEM business expanded.

2<sup>nd</sup> manufacturing plant set up







>>>

2020 <<< 2019

2018

Business expanded to CAR OEMs Added 4 new manufacturing plants 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> manufacturing plants set up





2021

>>> 2022

2023

ADS/DDS getting

And expanding...

(Plants, Packaging, Dispensing)

Added 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> manufacturing plants

ADS Solutions added to portfolio

Added 4 new manufacturing plants

implemented through PSUs/ OEMs.





#### **Standards & Quality Approval**









### **Approved by Major OEMS in India**

16 Plants - Total Production Capacity - 3,84,000 MT of AdBlue/DEF



Plan to add 10 plants – Taking total capacity to 1 Million KL per annum



# Enhancement to our offerings!





### **OEM Customers**



## **DAIMLER**

























# To Go Green, add a bit of Blue!



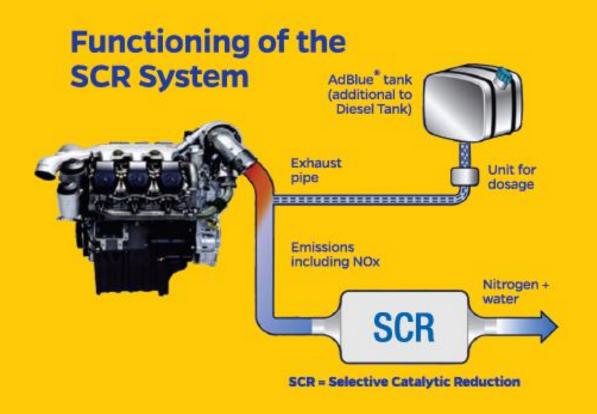


## India: Current Scenario

- With increasing SCR population, there is a growth of AdBlue demand in the country.
- Along with reputed organized players, many unorganized players entering this segment
- Volume of substandard AdBlue being sold in the market is increasing due to the following reasons:
  - Contamination of AdBlue is taking place due to Non Dedicated Dispensing Equipment.
  - Cheaper Industrial / Agricultural grade urea and supplies without mandated testing of product are some of the mechanisms adopted to reduce cost of manufacturing.
  - Spurious manufacturers supplying AdBlue / DEF / AUS32 with lower urea concentration to reduce cost.
- In addition, there is now increasing use of cheat technology to by pass SCR and avoid AdBlue/DEF refilling.







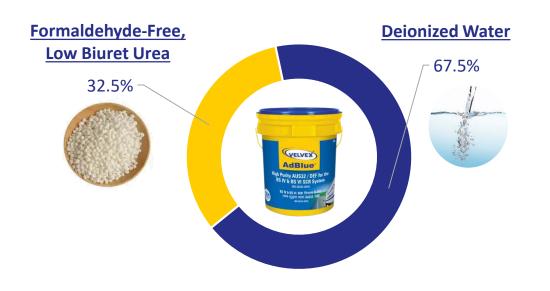
#### What is AdBlue...

- AdBlue is a high specification solution and is manufactured to the ISO 22241 standards.
- AdBlue is essential for the correct operation of SCR after treatment device used in Diesel Engines to meet Bharat Stage IV & VI emission norms.
- AdBlue is a clear, non-toxic liquid that is safe to handle and does not damage the environment
- AdBlue is not a fuel or fuel additive. AdBlue is carried on the vehicle in an additional tank.



## AdBlue Quality Standard

SCR systems are sensitive to potential chemical impurities in the urea solution. Therefore, it is essential to maintain high standards of quality in AdBlue manufacturing.



#### **AdBlue Specifications**

Characteristics	Links	Limits		Significance
Characteristics	Unit	min.	max.	Significance
Urea Content	% (m/m) <sup>d</sup>	31.8	33.2	Very critical to be in the range for ideal solution as it provides the lowest freezing point Also, the SCR system will be calibrated to 32.5% Urea content to get the optimum NOx reduction
Density @ 20°C	kg/m³	1087.0	1093.0	Product Identification, and to check possible contamination
Refractive Index at 20°C	-	1381.4	1384.3	Product Identification, and to check possible contamination
Alkalinity as NH <sub>3</sub>	% (m/m) <sup>d</sup>	-	0.2	Determines product shelf life
Biuret	% (m/m) <sup>d</sup>	-	0.3	Poison to catalyst
Aldehyde	mg/kg	-	5	Form Deposits
Insoluble Matter	mg/kg	-	20	Causes Injector Clog
Phosphate (PO4)	mg/kg	-	0.5	Poison to catalyst
Calcium	mg/kg	-	0.5	Causes Injector Clog
Iron	mg/kg	-	0.5	Poison to catalyst
Copper	mg/kg	-	0.2	Poison to catalyst
Zinc	mg/kg	-	0.2	Poison to catalyst
Chromium	mg/kg	-	0.2	Poison to catalyst
Nickel	mg/kg	-	0.2	Poison to catalyst
Aluminium	mg/kg	-	0.5	Poison to catalyst
Magnesium	mg/kg	-	0.5	Causes Injector Clog
Sodium	mg/kg	-	0.5	Poison to catalyst
Potassium	mg/kg	-	0.5	Poison to catalyst



# Quality Assurance at NPL BlueSky

- SCR systems is sensitive to potential chemical impurities. Each batch is tested to meet ISO 22241-1 and IS 17042 (Indian Standard ) Part I specifications.
- Central team at HO for periodic plant audits to ensure:
  - Consistency of Quality
  - Commonality of processes across all plants
- Plants are automated to ensure consistency.
- Inhouse state of the art testing facility
- Design, Manufacturing and After Sales Service support for AdBlue Dispensing System (ADS)
- Logistics team to optimize and improve the supply chain challenges



# Implications of Sub standard product (1/2)

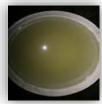
- In case effective NOx conversion does not take place will lead to engine torque reduction
- Sub standard AdBlue or wrong handling is the biggest cause of damage to SCR System leading to expensive the repair costs.
- Major components that gets damaged include:
  - AdBlue Dosage Pump
  - Urea Injector
  - The Catalyst

#### **Off Spec products from the Market**











#### <u>Improper handling of SCR systems</u>











# Implications of Sub standard product (2/2)

- Visibly clogged strainer
  filter clogged due to
  contamination
- Comparison of Contaminated and Regular filters





- AdBlue tank strainer filter found detached from the suction port leaving no filtration at the suction port.
- Risking reduced service life of main filter.

#### **Damaged SCR Systems**













## Steps Taken in Other Countries



**Europe:** AdBlue is a registered trademark of VDA. VDA audits the manufacturing plants and certifies them to use the AdBlue trade mark.



**USA:** American Petroleum Institute (API), on lines of VDA, has set up an audit and licensing framework and manufacturers qualifying the audit can use the API logo on their packs.



**China:** In April 2015, the Internal Combustion Engine Industry Association set up a certification system for AdBlue and those enterprises who meet the manufacturing specification are authorized to use their trademark called CGT.



**Brazil:** The In metro (Brazilian Institute of Metrology) is responsible for conformity assessment of a range of products manufactured and sold in Brazil.



## Cheat Technology - Bypass of SCR Systems

- Through an initial dip stick market survey, observing rise in tampering of SCR systems in India.
  - Bypass of SCR systems is happening in both BS-IV and BS-VI vehicles
  - SCR Equipment lines are removed from the system
  - Use of OBD emulators to bypass the SCR system
  - Counter Technology Services providers
- As a result , AdBlue/DEF consumption or sale has come down in recent past.
- Possible means of tampering SCR system, as seen in Europe which may pick up in India
  - Remapping
  - OBD Plug
  - CAN bus emulators
  - NOx sensor emulators
  - Modifications/tampering with

signals, removal of error codes

Additional tampering with DPF





## Effects of Bypassing SCR System



#### **ENVIRONMENT:**

- Higher NOx emissions will directly impact public health giving rise to respiratory problems and other health issues
- Environmental degradation with negative impact on biodiversity



#### **OEMs**

- Negative perception on BS-VI technology affecting Brand Equity
- Future regulatory challenges to implement and maintain emissions standards



#### **VEHICLE OWNERS:**

- Loss of business due to frequent breakdown
- Higher combustion temperatures leads to increased engine wear
- Decreased resale value as consequences of such modifications
- Loss of warranty coverage for engine-related issues



## Way Forward

- As the  $1^{st}$  step, BIS has come up with a manufacturing standard (IS 17042) for DEF manufacturing in India.
- To further ensure that consumers get the right quality product, a Quality Control Order (QCO) is to be implemented soon. This is will help curb substandard DEF availability in the market.
- Strict monitoring and ban on the sale of OBD emulator devices including through online platforms.
- Launch public awareness campaigns to educate the negative consequences, emphasizing the environmental and health impacts
- Enhance emissions testing and certification processes to identify vehicles that may have tampered emissions control systems
- Strengthen emissions standards to keep pace with advancements in emission control technology
- In the larger interest of environment, reduce GST from 18% to 5% to reduce cost burden to customer.

Vehicles running with inferior quality or without AdBlue / DEF / AUS 32 are more harmful to the environment and society as they emit more NOx than BS I standard

