

THE ITB GROUP, LTD.

39555 Orchard Hill Place * Suite 225
Novi, Michigan 48375-5377
TEL: (248) 380-6310
FAX: (248) 380-7294

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Dr. Joel Kopinsky
E-mail: jkopinsky@itbgroup.com
Internet: www.itbgroup.com
Date Sent: August 2006

ALTERNATIVE FUELS AND COST PRESSURES DRIVE INNOVATION IN AUTOMOTIVE FUEL SYSTEMS

The increased use of alternative fuels such as ethanol and biodiesel is requiring that OEMs reevaluate their automotive fuel system designs. Furthermore, this change in fuel compositions raises the possibility that government legislators could change the composition of test fuels. This could potentially lead to further changes in fuel system designs.

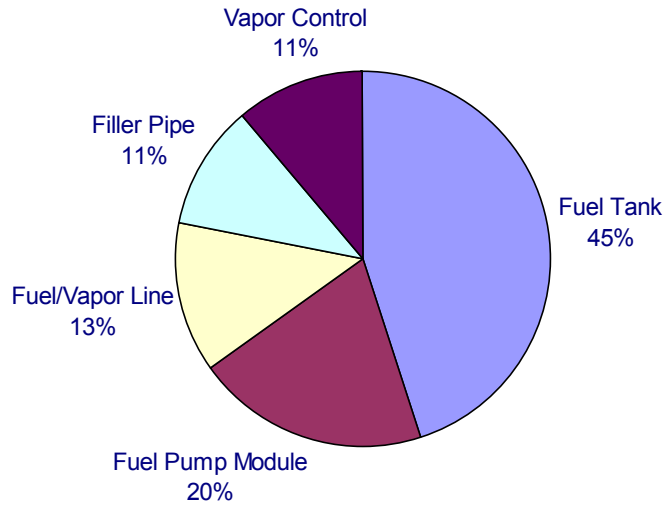
The automotive fuel system's market is estimated to be \$11.3 billion (refer to Exhibit A). This market is comprised of a variety of vehicles that have been designed to meet a number of different regulations. For example, there are major differences between fuel system technologies used for vehicles certified as near zero emissions (PZEV) in California compared with technologies used for vehicles certified as meeting EURO IV emission regulations in Europe.

The need to develop different vehicles for market segments that require different emission standards is resulting in the OEMs and suppliers reevaluating their product designs and production processes in order to optimize system costs. For example, just when the industry thought plastic fuel tanks were settling on a dominant design, the fuel tank suppliers have stepped up to the challenge of using a common fuel tank solution for different markets. As a result, there are exciting new developments that enable fuel tanks to have a high degree of commonality for different markets but at a reasonable production cost. Exhibit B illustrates the evolution over the years in technologies used for the production of plastic fuel tanks.

The ITB Group, Ltd. (Novi, Michigan) has completed a global analysis of the fuel systems market. This 386 page report considers industry dynamics, evaporative emission regulations, trends in fuel compositions, system designs and fuel tank, fuel line and evaporative emission control system technical and market developments. A vehicle-by-vehicle analysis is provided for the key components.

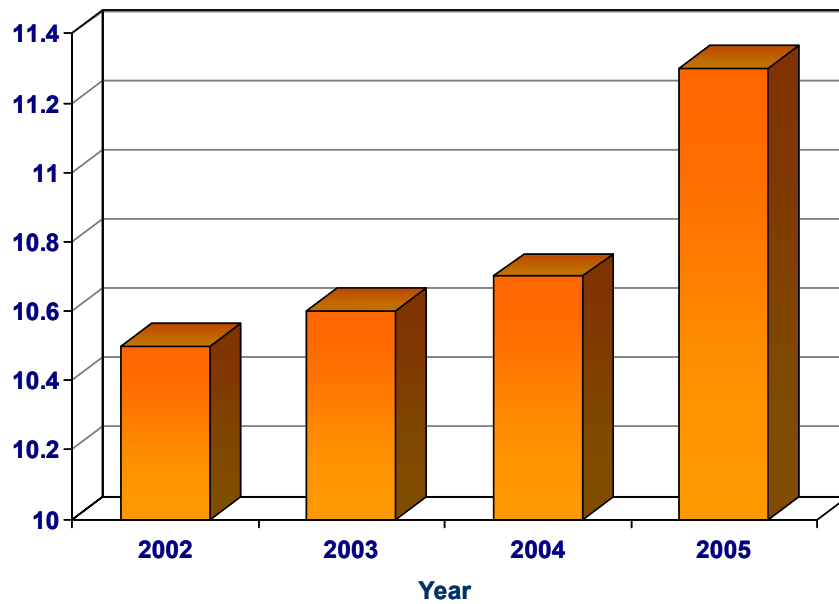
Exhibit A

Estimated 2005 Global Fuel Storage and Delivery Market



Total \$11.3 Billion

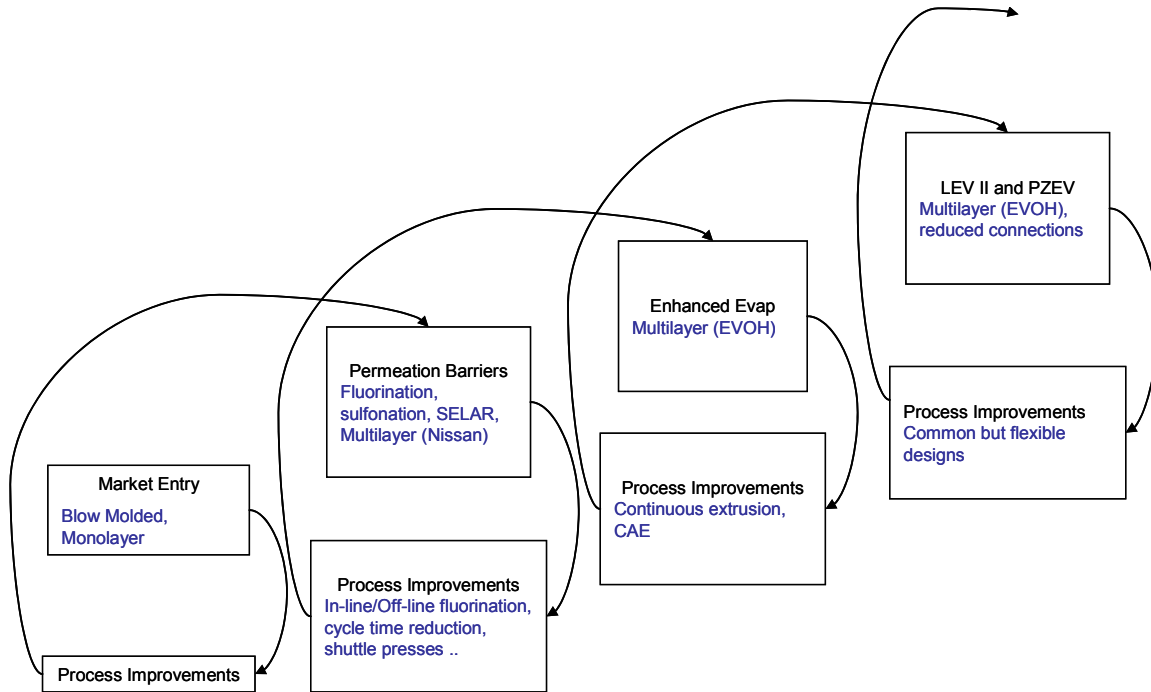
Total Market (\$)



Source: The ITB Group, Ltd.

Exhibit B

Evaluation of Plastic Fuel Tank Technologies



Source: The ITB Group, Ltd.