



## PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT WITHOUT COMPROMISING PERFORMANCE

RSC ENVIROLOGIC® CASE STUDY WITH OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT



*Omaha Public Power District*

Pursuing sustainability and protecting the environment are growing considerations for today's utility fleet managers. These goals can be met without sacrificing dependable performance. With these factors in mind, Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) turned to RSC Bio Solutions for products that are not only environmentally sensitive, but also perform consistently well.

### BACKGROUND

Founded in 1946, OPPD is a publicly owned, business-managed electric utility in Nebraska serving the eastern 13

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counties of the state. OPPD ranks as the 12th-largest public power utility in the U.S. in terms of the number of customers served. OPPD has approximately 1,400 units in its equipment fleet, including aerial basket trucks, digger derricks,

trenching/directional boring and construction equipment, coal dozers, light- and medium-duty trucks and cars. As part of its overall sustainability initiative, OPPD's fleet also includes more than 35 gas-electric hybrid cars and Nebraska's

first hybrid basket truck—with plans to increase these numbers.

### CHALLENGE

OPPD began expanding its options for environmentally responsible products

in 2006. OPPD's fleet encounters similar issues to many other utility fleets—hose ruptures, hydraulic fluid leaks, oil spills—which have the potential to negatively impact the environment and drive expensive clean-up costs. Beyond minimizing these environmental risks, OPPD needed to find a product that would also achieve the performance standards required by the fleet, be readily available and represent fiscal responsibility.

Because they often use vegetable oil rather than petroleum oil as a base fluid, readily biodegradable\* performance fluids can be a key component to the greening of a utility fleet. In addition to reducing impact on the environment from lasting damage through leaked or spilled petroleum, biobased products also lower the risk to employees—therefore reducing the liability associated with workers' compensation claims for exposure to harmful chemicals.

## **SOLUTION**

After a successful initial test on a single truck, OPPD has been using RSC Bio Solutions' products for eight years running. Currently, OPPD uses RSC EnviroLogic® HF 22<sup>†</sup> Hydraulic Fluid for its aerial equipment, and RSC EnviroLogic® Universal Tractor Fluid 46<sup>††</sup> serves as a direct OEM oil replacement for all trenching equipment.

The RSC EnviroLogic products are readily biodegradable and biodegrade 60 percent or greater within 28 days\* in the environment if spilled or leaked from equipment during use—providing an additional level of environmental safety.

***“We must meet our environmental goals and still provide up-to-date, reliable equipment that meets the operator’s needs and today’s safety standards,” said Mark Chapman, supervisor, engineering and administration with OPPD. “RSC Bio Solutions’ products provide lubrication that’s similar to oil based products, with no impacts on downtime, maintenance and overhead costs, and are much more environmentally friendly.”***

***“As a public utility, we are always looking for ways to ensure our equipment won’t have a negative impact on the environment due to an unforeseen equipment failure. Using RSC Bio Solutions’ products help minimize the risk of petroleum contamination to the environment and the public.”***

## **RESULTS**

***“We’ve had great results with these products,” said Chapman. “If there is a spill, we’re confident in the product and feel better prepared to handle cleanup.”***

The full line of RSC Bio Solutions' readily biodegradable lubricants and cleaning products is appealing to OPPD, allowing for easy integration and expansion into their system. As a result of their satisfaction with the RSC Bio Solutions products they currently use, OPPD's fleet management is exploring the use of other RSC Bio Solutions products, such as SAFECARE® SC 1000™ Aqueous Cleaner Concentrate.

<sup>†</sup>Previously EnviroLogic® 122 Hydraulic Fluid

<sup>††</sup>Previously EnviroLogic® 700 Tractor Hydraulic Fluid

\*As per OECD 301B or ASTM D7373





### **RSC ENVIROLOGIC® HF 22 HYDRAULIC FLUID†**

RSC EnviroLogic HF 22 hydraulic fluid is a readily biodegradable, biobased high dielectric ISO 22 viscosity grade hydraulic oil for use in general purpose hydraulic systems. RSC EnviroLogic HF 22 is based on unique base oil technology and is a direct replacement for petroleum oil based hydraulic fluids of the same viscosity. RSC EnviroLogic HF 22 is formulated for high antiwear performance, excellent water separation, low foaming and air release characteristics, excellent corrosion and rust protection and high oxidative stability for long fluid use. It also has a high viscosity index and will permit fluid operation over a broader temperature range. RSC EnviroLogic HF 22 is non-conductive and designed for use in equipment that is near high voltage, therefore protecting the equipment operator. RSC EnviroLogic HF 22 has reduced environmental impact in the event of a leak or spill, as it is readily biodegradable and non-sheening.

### **RSC ENVIROLOGIC® UNIVERSAL TRACTOR FLUID 46††**

RSC EnviroLogic Universal Tractor Fluid 46 is a readily biodegradable, low toxicity ISO 46/SAE 5W30 (J-20-C), multi-viscosity grade tractor oil for use in heavy-duty brake, transmission and hydraulic systems. RSC EnviroLogic Universal Tractor Fluid 46 is based on natural ester technology and is a direct replacement for petroleum oil based tractor fluids. RSC EnviroLogic Universal Tractor Fluid 46 exceeds the performance requirements of petroleum oil based tractor fluids and has excellent antiwear characteristics.

†Previously EnviroLogic® 122 Hydraulic Fluid

††Previously EnviroLogic® 700 Tractor Hydraulic Fluid

**For more information about RSC Bio Solutions, visit us at [rscbio.com](http://rscbio.com) or call +1 704.684.6100.**



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