

United States Marine Corps Wins Closing the Circle Award for Energy Efficiency

In the summer of 2005 the U.S. Marine Corps received one of the government's highest environmental honors when they were awarded a White House Closing the Circle Award in the category of *Energy Efficiency in Transportation - Military*.

The following excerpt was taken from the official announcement of winners on April 7, 2005:

"The Marine Corps has exceeded the Energy Policy Act (EPA) requirements for the past five years, led Department of Defense and other Federal agencies in the adoption of biodiesel, introduced and expanded the use of neighborhood electric vehicles, and met the 2005 requirements for Executive Order 13149 in 2003, two years ahead of schedule. During FY 2004 the Marine Corps had a 27.5 percent fuel reduction and a 243 percent compliance with EPA, while using more than 1.2 million gallons of biodiesel. In addition to the 28 neighborhood electric vehicles purchased last year, the Marine Corps is seeking to procure 48 hybrid vehicles for use by its recruiting force and is taking an active step for the future of hydrogen-powered fuel cell vehicles."

-Office of the Federal Environmental Executive
April 7, 2005