

# DEF FAQ

Volvo Trucks. Driving Success.®



**Q: What is Diesel Exhaust Fluid, or DEF?**

**A:** Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) is a reactant that's key to the SCR process. It's a nontoxic, aqueous solution of 32.5% urea and 67.5% water.

**Q: What is urea?**

**A:** Urea is a compound of nitrogen that turns to ammonia when heated. It is used in a variety of industries, perhaps most commonly as a fertilizer in agriculture.

**Q: How many miles can a truck travel on a single gallon of DEF?**

**A:** DEF consumption is related to fuel consumption. A highway truck may travel 225-300 miles or more on one gallon of DEF.

**Q: How does outside temperature affect DEF?**

**A:** DEF will begin to freeze at 12 degrees F. The SCR system provides heating for the DEF tank and supply lines. If the DEF freezes when the vehicle is not operating, start-up and normal operation of the vehicle will not be affected. The SCR heating system will heat the DEF to liquid form and vehicle operation can continue normally. When frozen, DEF expands by about 7%. DEF tanks are designed to accommodate this expansion.

**Q: How should DEF be stored?**

**A:** Store DEF in a cool, dry and ventilated area, away from direct sunlight. Recommended storage temperature is up to 77 degrees F, though brief exposure to higher temperatures will not be a problem.

**Q: What is the shelf life of DEF?**

**A:** This is largely a factor of storage temperature. DEF degrades over time depending on temperature and exposure to sunlight. If stored at recommended temperatures (not exceeding 77 degrees F) shelf life will be two years.

**Q: Are there any handling concerns with DEF?**

**A:** DEF is nontoxic, nonhazardous and nonflammable. It is non-polluting and meets strict international standards for purity and composition. DEF poses no serious risk to drivers or equipment when handled properly.

**Q: Is DEF corrosive?**

**A:** DEF is corrosive to certain sensitive metals. DEF tanks and dispensing equipment will be made of an appropriate, heavy-duty plastic.

**Q: How does DEF affect service and maintenance?**

**A:** Volvo vehicles with an SCR system require no change to service and maintenance intervals. A small DEF filter on the pump intake can be changed in minutes. No catalyst maintenance is required.

**Q: How is DEF packaged?**

**A:** DEF will be available in 2.5-gallon containers, 55-gallon drums, 275 gallon IBC and in bulk storage for fleet locations, truck stops and dealerships.

**Q: Where will DEF be available?**

**A:** DEF will be everywhere drivers are. All major truck stops, dealers and distributors will carry DEF.