

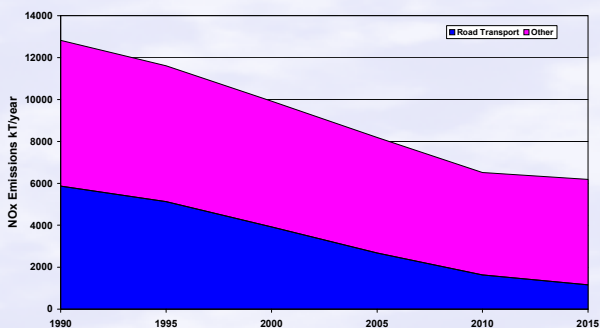
Trends in European Ambient Air Quality

The concern with air quality was part of the original remit of CONCAWE and has been, over the last four decades, possibly the most prominent of all environmental issues in Europe. Particularly since the early 90's, the pace of legislation regulating emissions to air has been relentless. CONCAWE has been directly involved in all aspects linked to the activities of the downstream oil industry. The impact of the legislation has been impressive, achieving dramatic reductions in the levels of all main air pollutants in spite of the increase in activity levels and energy usage.

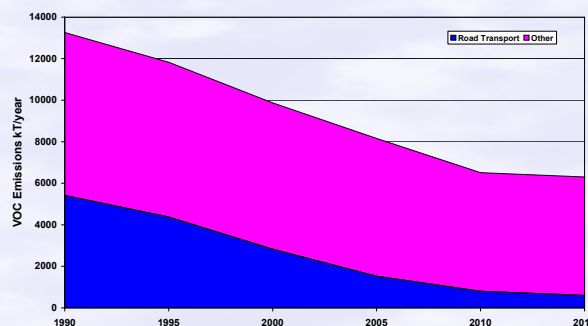
Air quality is a complex field and it is essential that legislation promotes actions that make a real difference. CONCAWE has consistently supported the "environmental-quality-driven" approach whereby a measure is judged by its capacity to produce results in air quality terms, at a reasonable cost as opposed to a "technology-driven" approach where the best technology is forced in, irrespective of its cost and its contribution to the achievement of air quality targets.

Legislation has so far focussed on one specific issue at a time such as sulphur in liquid fuels or control of VOC emissions. The CAFE (Clean Air For Europe) programme represents a change in emphasis in that it focuses on air quality and health targets and seeks to determine the most cost-effective measures likely to allow these targets to be reached. CONCAWE has welcomed this development and is actively contributing to the programme.

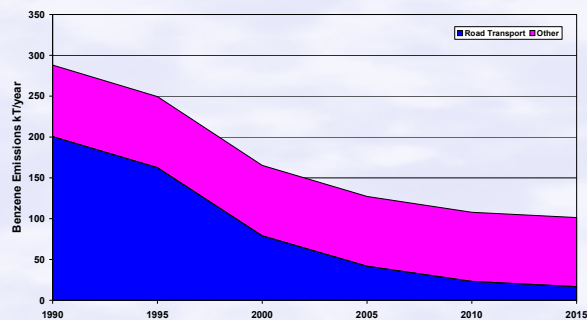
NOx Emissions From EU-15



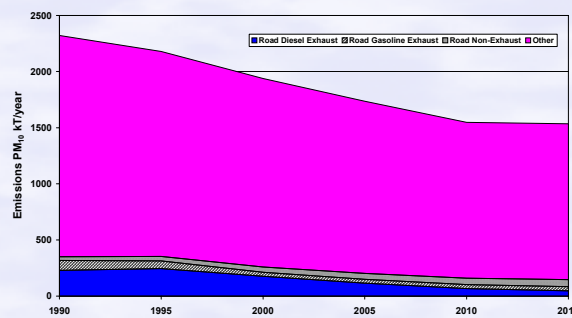
VOC Emissions From EU-15



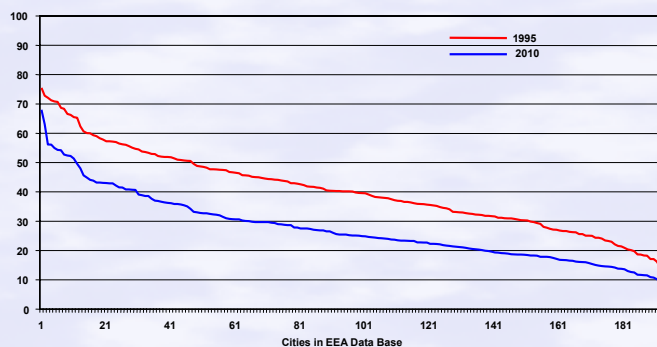
Benzene Emissions From EU-15



PM10 Emissions From EU-15



Plots of EEA Urban Air Quality Results 1995/2010 for NO2



Auto Oil II: Plots of EEA Urban Air Quality Results 1995/2010 for PM10

