Say goodbye

he long awaited moves have begun in the US which will lead to the banning of 100LL. In April the US Environmental Protection Agency issued an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in response to a petition by an environmental protection organisation that the lead in Avgas is a threat to public health.

The Bluewater Network, a division of Friends of the Earth, has campaigned for a long time to phase out leaded aviation gasoline.

Four years ago it submitted a petition to the EPA demanding a review.

Avgas contains tetraethyl lead (TEL), which serves as an antiknock additive. TEL is suspected to cause cancer and damage the nervous system. Its use in cars was banned in the US in 1996 and in the European Union in 2000. By early next year, the EPA will introduce fuel additive regulations which should see the phasing out of Avgas within ten years.

High-performance engines have difficulty operating with fuel which has less than 100 octane, but most engine manufacturers have been working for some time on lead free fuel alternatives.

Plane Crazy



ne of Australia's first aviation podcast (Internet radio show) looking at the world of aviation from an Australia / Pacific point of view is getting to be very popular.

34 episodes have already been produced and downloaded more than 25,000 times by listeners around the world.

The goal of the shows, which are produced by Steve Visscher and Grant McHerron, are to boost awareness of aviation within the Australia / Pacific region, promote Australian achievements and spread the message to people that flying is fun and achievable.

Through a combination of commentary, interviews and round table discussions, the Plane Crazy Down Under team is building a solid reputation for providing a high quality, professional yet relaxed show.

Topics and areas covered in the podcasts so far range from hot air balloons, recreational flying, warbirds & sport aerobatics through to charter operations, airlines and the military.

Plane Crazy Down Under has also produced themed episodes covering special topics including flying in and over Antarctica; Air Traffic Controller training; and the B24 Liberator restoration project.

For more information visit www.planecrazydownunder.com



