

Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities Gazette

Driving the way toward energy independence

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NAFTC Holds “Train the Trainer”

In July, the National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium (NAFTC) held a Petroleum Reduction Technologies (PRT) class at the CCAC – West Hills Center. The class trained Clean Cities Coordinators and Stakeholders on how to use the NAFTC materials to inform stakehold-

ers groups about alternative fuel technologies.

To learn more about the Clean Cities Learning Program go to <http://www.naftc.wvu.edu/>

Giant Eagle has New CNG Yard Jockey

As part of an EPA Clean Diesel Grant obtained with the help of PRCC, Giant Eagle purchased a CNG yard jockey. The vehicle, which moves trailers around the warehouse facility in Thornburg, looks just like the other yard jockeys, “but it is much quieter and has the power to move trailers like the diesel versions,” said one of the drivers. It is equipped with the Cummins 320 8.9L CNG engine.



CNG Yard Jockey in Thornburg, PA

CCAC Holds ALCOSAN Hybrid Training

The Community College of Allegheny County - West Hills Center provided a Hybrid Training Class for ALCOSAN mechanics. The classes were divided into two separate weekly sessions to accommodate the mechanics' work schedules. Instructor Bob Koch of CCAC developed the compressed version of the accredited class they teach at CCAC and gave the mechanics an overview of many of the PHEV and Hybrid vehicles. He was able to show them the components of a standard hybrid system as well as videos on many different vehicles. PRCC brought a PHEV Chevy Volt for the mechanics to examine and drive.



ALCOSAN Mechanics at CCAC Hybrid training class

President's Corner

Earlier this year the state General Assembly passed Act 13, which among other things, gives the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) additional tools to help the state's ongoing effort to move (cont. next page)

towards energy independence. Among them, Act 13 creates a new three year Natural Gas Energy Development Program that will make \$20 million in grant funds available to municipal or commercial fleets on a competitive basis to purchase or convert eligible vehicles to natural gas.

DEP recently hosted a series of seminars across the state to help fleet operators better understand the new grant program and how to access it. PRCC hosted one of these seminars during its recent NGV day at CCAC. During the first year, \$10 million will be available for retrofits and new purchases, with half of that going to local transportation organizations. Although the minimum number of vehicles per application is five, fleet operators can come together to submit a joint application. The grant application period opens December 1, 2012,

and the proposals must be submitted by February 1, 2013. The state plans to quickly make its decisions and award the grant funds late March 2013.

If you are interested in accessing these funds, you should begin to evaluate your vehicle options now as well as determining how best to fuel the vehicle(s). If you are considering fewer than the required five vehicles, then you also need to identify partners that can participate on the grant application with you. PRCC can help you better understand your retrofit and new vehicle purchase options. We can also help to assemble partners with whom you can pursue joint proposals. Please move quickly to make sure that you have time to prepare a competitive proposal! Visit the PA DEP website, Natural Gas Vehicle Program to learn more and to sign up to be notified when the grant round is opened.

FYDA Holds Open House

FYDA Freightliner of Pittsburgh located in Canonsburg, PA, held an open house to showcase the vehicles that they sell and modify. This year it in-

cluded some of the natural gas vehicles they have refitted. On display were a Class 8 Dual Fuel Tractor and a converted fire truck.



Coca Cola Using Hydraulic Hybrid



PRCC visited Coca Cola's Houston, PA facility to see the benefits of hybrids in reducing petroleum based fuel consumption and talk with staff about what Coca Cola is doing toward reducing oil based fuels. PRCC had a chance to see the vehicle (an Eaton Road Ranger) and

talk with Ron Adams, Fleet Manager, about the benefits of operating the hybrid. Coca Cola is experiencing a 30% fuel reduction using these hybrids, and they have over 634 of these in their fleet worldwide.

Member Spotlight: Kevin Collins

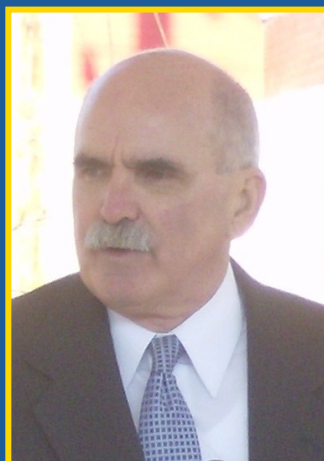
Kevin Collins is the Vice President of Business Development for CP Industries in McKeesport. Kevin has been involved in the natural gas business for over 35 years. His company manufactures pressure vessels such as those used to dispense natural gas at Equitable Gas' vehicle fueling station in the Strip District and at Giant Eagle's station in Crafton.

The CP Industries Christy Park Plant in McKeesport pioneered the development and manufacture of seamless pressure vessels and has helped the company become a world leader in this industry. They provide seamless steel pressure vessels as large as 24 inches in diameter and 40 feet long that are used to store and transport industrial gases such as hydrogen, helium and argon, as well as natural gas. Domestic and international markets include aerospace, chemical processing, construction, food production, industrial controls, medicine, nuclear power propulsion systems, oil and gas exploration and

production, rescue equipment, transportation, undersea exploration and natural gas vehicles.

CP Industries was founded as the U.S. Seamless Tube Works, or Christy Park Plant, of the National Tube Works Co. It became CP Industries when U.S. Steel Corp. sold it in 1986. Since 2008, the company has been a subsidiary of Everest Kanto Cylinder Ltd. of India, which bought it from Reunion Industries Inc.

Vessels built for CNG fuel account for 19 percent of CP Industries' revenue, up from just 5 percent a year ago according to Kevin. The company "can be instrumental in building the CNG fueling station network," he said. About 930 public and private stations operate in the United States, according to website CNGnow. Kevin and CP Industries have been working with PRCC for over 15 years, and Kevin once served on the PRCC Board of Directors.



Ford Trucks “Grassroots” Event



Westport LD CNG Bi-fuel Truck



LandiRenzo CNG Van

Ford Motor Company is utilizing a national "grassroots" marketing campaign to connect with customers and dealers on their own turf. The Grassroots Campaign capitalizes on consumer-oriented product tours, coordinated marketing with dealerships, and word-of-mouth promotion by brand loyalists to build brand awareness among consumers and boost sales.

The Grassroots campaign works to increase collaboration and communication within the dealership network. The local

Pittsburgh and Columbus Ford Truck Dealers attended the recent Grass Roots Event in West

Middlesex, PA. The event provided dealers a preview of changes to Ford truck fleet and provided information about vehicle incentives and other topics important to Ford dealers. This year's event boasted the most alternative fuel vehicles since the event began, including CNG vans and pickups. Again this year,

Ford has increased the number of alternative fueled vehicles they will have available for customers.



BAF Ford CNG Pickup



IMPCO CNG Truck



CNG Upfitted Ford Truck

A Visit to Oring Fueling Systems

PRCC recently made a trip to Punxsutawney, PA, to visit with Bob Beatty of Oring Fuel System's which is working on a mobile model for a CNG station.

Bob was kind enough to host us and show us all the things Oring Fuel Systems has been doing in the CNG station business in the area. Oring Fuel Systems already has three Pennsylvania CNG stations up and running in Cool

Springs, Punxsutawney, and Rimersburg. There are plans for another station in Brookville, PA.

The Oring Fuel System design uses a trailer that has all the components of a CNG station. The trailer design makes the station very mobile, especially as it has only three utility connections. About 85 vehicles are using Oring Fuel Systems' stations, and there is demand for more.



Oring CNG converted vehicles



Oring Cool Springs Station



Punxsutawney Station

PRCC Executive Director on Radio

PRCC Executive Director Rick Price was a guest on ALLENERGYNOW.COM speaking with Tegas Gosai to discuss using natural gas as a transportation fuel. ALLENERGYNOW.COM is partnering with TheMarcellusShale.com and The UticaShale.com to talk about energy issues in our area. To hear the radio show you can click on <http://allenergynow.com/content/aen-post/aen-podcast-episode-25>. You can also learn more about natural gas at the MarcellusShale.com and The UticaShale.com.

“O” Ring Leads the Way

“O” Ring CNG Fuel Systems, L.P. of Coolspring, PA is a leader in the CNG Fuel Station business in Pennsylvania, forging the way with three CNG stations up and running and more on the way. President of “O” Ring CNG Fuel Systems, L.P., Mr. Bob Beatty, has three decades of experience in the compressor and gas industries, giving him a very unique and highly sought after type of expertise in PA’s current natural gas boom.

PA Congress recently sought advice from industry leaders, to include Mr. Beatty, regarding how to appropriately tax alternative fuels in Pennsylvania. Beatty spoke before the Congressional subcommittee with a very powerful testimony about the current state of the alternative fuels industry and the associated regulatory issues. Beatty highlighted four key points:

First and foremost, the CNG industry needs to support alternative fuel taxes. As citizens, we enjoy – and often take for granted – public highways, bridges and other everyday necessities that are funded by tax revenues. To subvert the tax system would be to undercut the very support from the local, state, and federal governments that this fledgling industry desperately needs.

Secondly, we as a State need to address the inconsistencies, ambiguities, and errors in the current alternative fuel tax laws. Industry leaders and lawmakers can work together to ensure everyone understands both the technologies and calculations involved in using CNG as vehicular fuel. By creating clear laws that enable progress in the alternative fuels industry rather than inhibit it, we can together ensure that this tremendous opportunity for economic growth in PA, our region, and our nation is not missed.

Third, the current tax system puts alternative fuel producers at a disadvantage, rather than promoting growth or even creating an even playing field between traditional fuel sellers and alternative fuel

sellers. For instance, since all vehicle fuel is taxed on a flat rate per gallon but CNG is sold at approximately half the price of traditional fuels, CNG producers end up paying a larger portion of their sales in taxes than traditional fuel sellers. By implementing a percentage-based tax in place of the current flat tax, PA lawmakers could stimulate the alternative fuel industry and in turn help citizens save money at the pump, create more jobs in the natural gas industry, and greatly improve PA’s overall economy.

Finally, everyone in PA – natural gas industry professionals, lawmakers, and citizens alike – must work together to promote a new “green revolution” through which we can bring jobs, revenue, and security to PA, the “Rust Belt” region, and eventually the nation. CNG has the potential to revolutionize the transportation industry, but we must work together to educate one another, find ways to fund & build infrastructure, work towards more factory vehicle solutions, and promote the indigenous resource we literally have right under our feet.

This opportunity not only provides a way for PA to lead the charge in lessening the US dependence on foreign oil, but it is an opportunity in which all can share the benefits: consumers, retailers, producers, government, the environment, and citizens. We have an opportunity to write the laws governing this fledgling industry to ensure success for all those entities and promote industry growth rather than inhibit it. It starts with our industry leaders and lawmakers working together.

To find out how CNG can transform your business or personal travel or for more information on the national security, environmental, and economical benefits of CNG please visit: www.orringcng.com.



Upcoming Events

Board of Directors Meeting Schedule for 2012

October 3, 2012

Stakeholder Meeting - CCAC West Hills

October 5, 2012

Odyssey Day

October 19, 2012

Membership

Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities is always looking for new members! Our job is to help you understand the value and importance of converting to alternative fuels. We can tell you about the incentives available to you for using alternative fuels. We can help guide you through making smart financial and environmental choices about purchasing an alternative fueled vehicle or using an alternative fuel. Become a member, and we can help you assess your fleet and objectives, as well as work with you to acquire funding assistance. If you would like to join and/or volunteer, please contact Rick Price at coordinator@pgh-cleancities.org

Contribute Your News!

We want to showcase your news and successes, and we welcome ideas for articles. Please feel free to contact Rick Price, Executive Director/Coordinator, at 412-735-4114 or at coordinator@pgh-cleancities.org



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