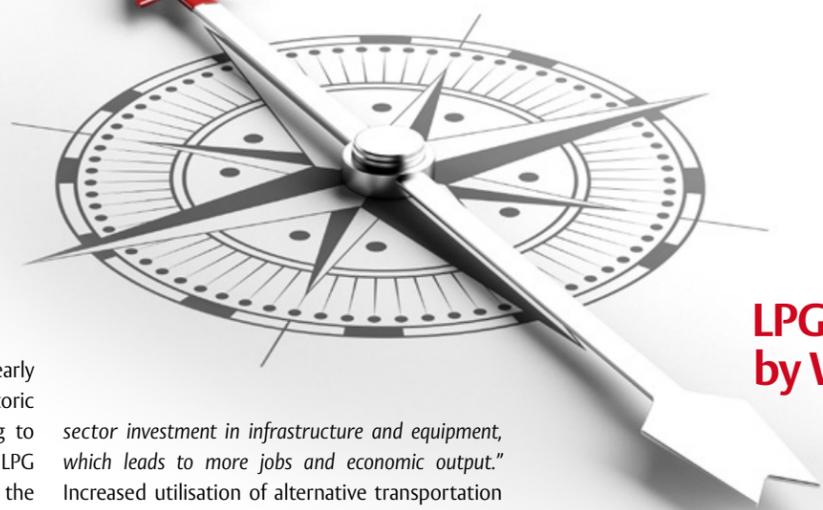


LPG news



LPG World by WLPGA



SPAIN

During 2017 Autogas market registered nearly 4,000 registrations, 4,000 conversions and a historic increase in Autogas consumption. According to the Spanish association Cluster Autogas, LPG is experiencing a remarkable expansion in the country, reflecting the growing interest in clean energy mobility.

According to the General Direction of Transport (DGT), the provisional data shows 3,840 new Autogas vehicles, of which 41.84% were registered in the Community of Madrid and 18.67% in Catalonia, added to the 50,000 LPG vehicles already circulating in Spain.

DGT's ECO classification for Autogas vehicles, as well as the Ministry of Energy, Tourism and Digital Agenda's commitment towards this fuel, including Movea and Movalt subsidy plans, has contributed positively to the achievement of these figures. The recently exhausted Movalt Plan has allowed the registration of more than 800 LPG-powered vehicles.

Most applicants for Movalt Plan subsidy, more than 35%, have been concentrated in the Community of Madrid, where the possibility of driving Autogas vehicles in the case of a high pollution scenario has stimulated interest in the fuel. Madrid was followed by Catalonia, with 17.22% of the requests, and the Valencian Community, with 15.44%.

The acquisition of new vehicles has been growing in parallel to the conversion to LPG of gasoline vehicles, which at the end of 2017 reached 4,000 units, representing an increase of 300% compared to the previous year.

Source: auto-gas.net

USA

National Propane Gas Association (NPGA) along with over 300 organisations representing users, retailers, customers, fleet managers, utilities, and producers of clean alternative fuels, including Autogas and natural gas, are circulating a letter on Capitol Hill urging Congress to reinstate the \$0.50/gallon alternative fuels tax credit (AFTC).

Noting the importance of private-sector investment to America's economy, the letter states, "Extending the AFTC promotes increased private-

sector investment in infrastructure and equipment, which leads to more jobs and economic output." Increased utilisation of alternative transportation fuels results in proven environmental benefits and helps promote America's energy security.

Nearly 200,000 vehicles in the United States are powered by Autogas, including 12,000 school buses that transport more than 700,000 school children every day. Rick Roldan, NPGA's President and CEO said, "This year, the United States will produce more than 20 billion gallons of LPG. We have more than enough LPG to fuel vehicles and heat homes. Congress should support reinstating the AFTC and the use of our domestic natural resources."

The letter asks Congress to extend the AFTC for 2 years, highlighting the business planning benefits and notes that a full five-year extension would provide business certainty combined with a significant contribution to America's economic growth.

Source: auto-gas.net

UK

A pioneering project to retrofit Hackney carriages in Birmingham with cleaner, greener LPG engines has won a national award. The NOx Reduction Champions Project - a partnership between Birmingham City Council, Autogas Ltd, Harborne Garage in Selly Oak, Element Energy and VRS - scooped the Local Authority and Public Sector Air Quality Initiative of the Year Award at the National Air Quality Awards in London. Under the initiative, 65 of Birmingham's black cabs were retrofitted with LPG engines with £500,000 through the Clean Vehicle Technology fund from the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV), part of the Government's Department for Transport (DfT).

Independent test results have shown that all 65 vehicles now meet the criteria to operate within a Clean Air Zone once this is implemented in Birmingham. According to the test results, emissions from the vehicles showed a reduction of more than 80% NOx and more than 90% in particulate matter, tiny airborne particles which are harmful to human health.

Awards judges praised the scheme, noting that taxi drivers who had participated in the scheme had recorded a high level of satisfaction, with 97% recommending the conversions to other drivers.

Councillor Lisa Trickett, Cabinet Member for Air Quality at Birmingham City Council, said: "It is fantastic news that we have been recognised for this pioneering scheme to put cleaner, greener cabs on our roads."

"The success of this project is a hugely important step forward in the work we are doing to tackle air pollution in Birmingham, but it also has significant implications for other cities across the country too as it means there is now an effective solution to ensure black cabs are compliant with Clean Air Zones.

"We will now look to continue working with the Government and lobby for funding to roll this scheme out across the rest of the city's Hackney carriage fleet."

Source: autogaslimited.co.uk

GERMANY

Klaus Vossemer, spokesman for transport policy of the CDU parliamentary group in North

Rhine-Westphalia, has referred to LPG as an alternative fuel solution to for cleaner transport without compromising on the need for individual mobility. "With LPG, driving bans can be avoided" - he said after a visit to the company Propan Rheingas GmbH & Co. KG in Brühl.

"Our goal in the coalition is to find fast, safe and, most importantly, affordable solutions to transport emissions, and we think LPG is a proven answer" - said Vossemer after a detailed conversation with Rheingas CEO Uwe Thomsen. "We need a real, holistic approach to achieve tangible improvements for the people, for polluted urban centres and for mobility", without restricting people's right to drive.

"The concentrations of particulate matter and nitrogen oxides in urban areas are a severe problem.

Autogas is a mature, proven and low-emission technology that can help solve this" - explained Thomsen.

Moreover, unlike for electric and hydrogen vehicles, there is already a fully developed refuelling infrastructure for Autogas. In Germany, about 7,000 filling stations have LPG dispensers.

Source: auto-gas.net

CANADA

Measurement Canada, the agency of innovation, science and economic development, has officially approved a new line of Autogas dispensers for retail sale, manufactured by Superior Energy Systems. These dispensers are the second in the world to earn Measurement Canada approval, a certification that verifies the dispensers are legal for trade and custody transfer in commercial and retail applications. Rigorous performance testing of these LPG dispensers was conducted over the last six months and approval was issued on 14 November 2017.

"Our engineering and product development team continues to go above and beyond to ensure that our Autogas dispenser line achieves the highest certification standards in North America" - said Don Fernald, President and CEO of Superior Energy Systems. "The Canadian Autogas market is substantial and this approval signifies our commitment to that customer base."

Superior Energy Systems' retail dispenser line includes the PRO-Vend 1000; the web-based, customizable PRO-Vend 2000; and the PRO-Vend dual hose, all National Type Evaluation Programme (NTEP) certified by the National Conference of Weights and Measures.

The dispensers are also certified by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) to Underwriters Laboratories (UL) 495 requirements, and comply with all applicable National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards.

Measurement Canada is responsible for ensuring accuracy in the selling of measured goods; developing and enforcing the laws related to measurement accuracy; approving and inspecting measuring devices; and investigating complaints of suspected inaccurate measurement in Canada.

Source: auto-gas.net

CHINA

China is moving to tighten control over pollutant emissions from new motor vehicles.

A recently revised policy demands stricter emission limits to be gradually placed on carbon monoxide, total hydrocarbons, nitrogen oxides and particulate matter produced by new motor vehicles, according to a Ministry of Environmental Protection statement.

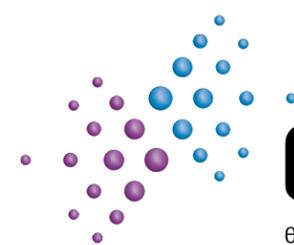
The ministry will make unified national emission standards for new vehicles, with local authorities encouraged to adopt the standards ahead of schedule. Priority of regulation will be put on heavy-duty diesel vehicles.

Authorities will encourage the research and development of automobiles using alternative fuels such as natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, ethanol and biodiesel. The use of alternative fuel and new energy vehicles should be given preference in urban public transport, sanitation, postal and logistics sectors.

The ministry said China's pollution control on motor vehicles should reach an internationally advanced level by 2020, with at least 95% of scrapped vehicles recycled.

The government unveiled a five-year national clean air action plan in 2013, aiming to improve air quality through measures such as closing factories, limiting cars and replacing coal with clean energy.

Source: news.xinhuanet.com



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