#### **Economic Commission for Europe**

Inland Transport Committee

#### Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

**Ninety-fifth session** Geneva, 4–8 November 2013

#### LNG: A safe fuel for trucks

8 November 2013



#### Paul Dijkhof





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#### LNG task force



- Overview standards and regulations current present and upcoming
- LNG system and its components
- LNG tank and components
- What is boil off?
- Venting management system
- Comparison between diesel and methane
- Crash and fire accidents
- Fire instructions
- Safety tests required on LNG tank and components

# $\int$

# Where does the LNG vehicle regulation comply with

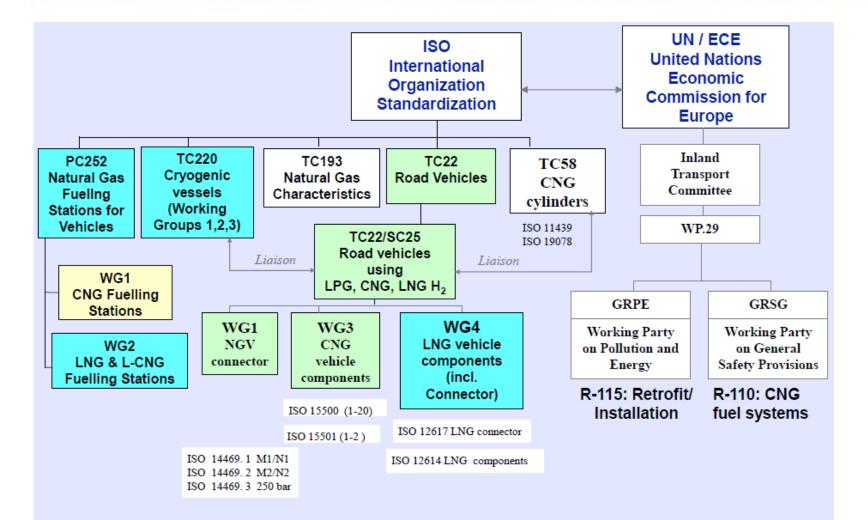
#### LNG Task force:

responsible for updating the regulation 110

Members of the LNG TF (component manufacturers, NGVA Europe, NGV Global, OEM's and testing agencies)

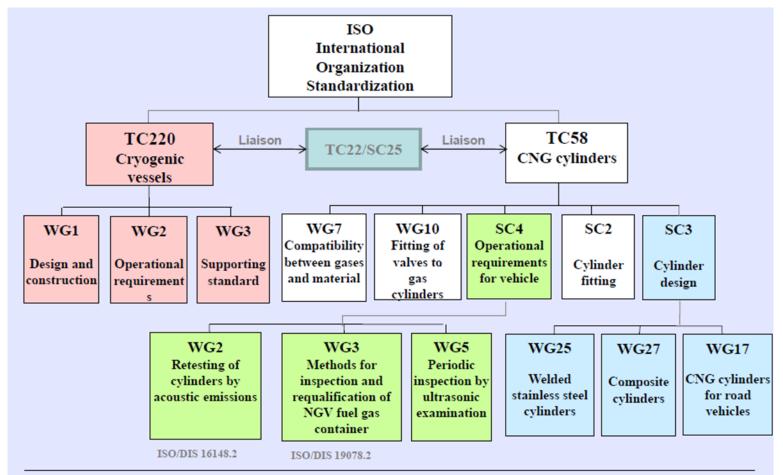
<u>Regulation 110</u> Uniform provisions concerning the approval of:
 I. Specific components of motor vehicles using compressed natural gas (CNG) and/or liquefied natural gas (LNG) in their propulsion system;
 II. Vehicles with regard to the installation of specific components of an approved type for the use of compressed natural gas (CNG) and/or liquefied natural gas (LNG) in their propulsion system

### **ISO STANDARDS- LNG FOCUS**



Adapted from: Harmonization of ISO Standards and UN Regulations: New on-board components for CNG, H2 and CNG-H2 blends, A. Bassi, SINTESI, March 2008.

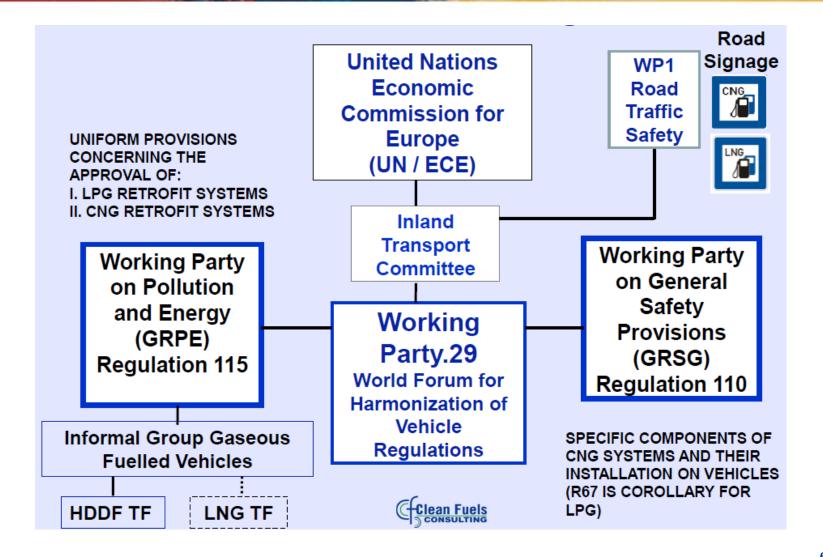
#### ISO Standards Structure for Fuel Storage: Cryogenics & CNG



Adapted from: Harmonization of ISO Standards and UN Regulations: New on-board components for CNG, H2 and CNG-H2 blends, A.Bassi, SINTESI, March 2008

### **UN Structure for NGV Regulations**

10 C 10



### **Example of basic LNG system**

Annex A (informative)

#### Construction and assembly

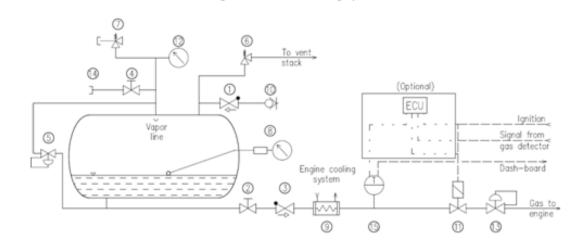


Figure A.1 - LNG fuelling system

- 1 Fill check valve
- 2 Fuel shutoff valve

1.00

- 3 Excess flow valve
- 4 Vaporshutoff valve
- 5 Pressure control regulator
- 6 Primary relief valve (PRV)
- 7 Secondary relief valve (PRV)
- 8 Fuel contents gauge

- 9 Heat exchanger -- vaporizer
- 10 Fill fitting
- 11 Automatic fuel shutoff valve
- 12 Tank pressure gauge
- 13 Overpressure regulator
- 14 Vent connector
- 15 Gas temperature sensor
- ECU Electronic control unit of engine

### **Components used in the LNG part:**

#### ECU for CNG/LNG applications

Connected to the vehicles ECU

#### LNG heat exchanger vaporizer

- LNG is vaporized into gaseous state (considered CNG)
- LNG pressure control regulator
- LNG pressure / temperature sensor
- Natural gas detector
- the automatic valve, check valve, pressure relief valve, excess flow valve, manual valve and nonreturn valve for LNG applications

### LNG components

#### LNG tank

- Double insulated stainless steel tank (inner vessel, insulation and vacuumed, outer vessel)
- Temperature inside -163°C
- Pressure inside the tank is depending on system (between atmospheric and 1.8MPa currently)
- Automatic valve
- Pressure relief valve's (primary and secondary)
  - Primary is used for venting
  - Secondary is used in case of emergency

### **Example of LNG tank**







- A cryogenic fluid is typically kept at low temperatures in a storage vessel. The storage has a major challenge due to the inherent heat input from the environment.
- The effect of the heat input is warming of the cryogenic fluid:
  - If (constant volume) → Pressure increase in the storage vessel
  - If (constant pressure) → Fluid boils and "boil-off" vapours are released from the vessel (venting)
- The vapours created due to the ambient heat input (while maintaining constant pressure in the storage vessel) are called "boil-off".
  - The discharge of these vapours out of the storage container is called venting.

# LNG Task Force Summary Boil Off: LNG Tanks

#### Boil-off for the vehicle LNG Tank

- LNG is a cryogenic liquid stored in a tank onboard the vehicle. Inherently heat from ambient flows in and warms the liquid.
- For this application, the tanks are designed to take higher pressure, therefore being able to contain the LNG without release of vapour.
- The time the tank can hold the LNG without venting is called "holding time". By regulation 110 and codes in US and Canada the holding time is 5 days.







## LNG Task Force Summary Conclusions: Boil Off

- The use of LNG has the inherent time factor, due to the heat input from the ambient to the vehicle tank.
- As required by codes in US and Canada, the LNG vehicle tanks are designed to contain the LNG for at least 5 days without venting.
- For normal operation, there is no release of natural gas to atmosphere.
- To avoid a dangerous condition, due to pressure increase above the maximum operating limit, the LNG tank will vent to atmosphere a limited amount of gas.







Though designed to be 'vent free' it is not possible to prevent small amounts of methane escaping to atmosphere

- Commercial trucking systems are designed to match fuel consumption with fuel storage and delivery quantities
- Few commercial operators have trucks immobile for five days
- Venting in enclosed spaces (i.e. workshops) is taken into account (as with CNG) to provide proper ventilation



# LNG venting management systems and techniques are well known

- Pressure regulator ('economizer' regulator) vents at pre-set pressure, opening for ~10-30 seconds and closes
- Adding LNG to the fuel tank condenses 'warmer' fuel
- Starting the engine or driving briefly relieves pressure in the tank and prevents venting
- Vapor recovery systems on the vehicle can be installed, sending 'warm' fuel back to fuelling station tanks



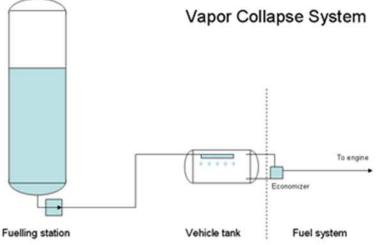
# **Provisions for hold time test**

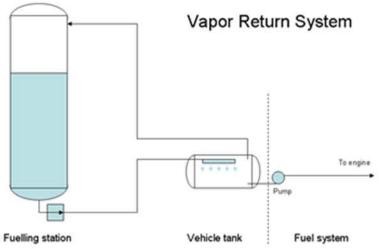
#### In the Regulation 110 we did insert the following test:

Annex 3B 2.7. Vehicle LNG tank(s) shall have a design hold time (build without relieving) minimum of 5 days after being filled net full and at the highest point in the design filling temperature/pressure range.

# 2 Examples of heat management and types of fuel delivery systems

- Dealing with the amount of heat accumulated in the tank depends on the fuelling station and vehicle application
- Vapour transfer to fuelling station or on-board processing of vapours reduces the tank pressure and resets the clock on holding time.
- Best practice and experience is the key to successful operation.





Source: Prepared for: LNG Task Force meeting in Brussels, November 3, 2011 Prepared by: Mihai Ursan, PhD., P.Eng. Document number **TF-LNG-02-06** (Westport, paper) What is Boil-off?

# LNG filling receptacle

- Spill during filling is no more than 30cm3. The filling nozzle and receptacle are a closed system.
- During filling there is no vapor. (With diesel vapor will come out of the tank during filling of the open system).
- There is a check valve (non return valve) in the receptacle.



4.76. "LNG filling receptacle" means device connected to a vehicle or storage system which receives the LNG fuelling nozzle and permits safe transfer of fuel. The receptacle consists as minimum from a receptacle body and from a check valve mounted inside the body.

18.12.1 A system shall be provided for preventing the fuel tank from being overfilled.



- The content of the tank is protected with an automatic valve that in case of leakage or crash will be closed to prevent the tank from being emptied to atmosphere.
- Following provisions are in the R110 for the automatic valve:
  - "18.6.1. Automatic valve
  - 18.6.1.1. An automatic valve shall be installed in the fuel supply line, directly on every LNG tank (in a protected position).
  - 18.6.1.2. The automatic valve shall be operated such that the fuel supply is cut off when the engine is switched off, irrespective of the position of the ignition switch, and shall remain closed while the engine is not running. A delay of 2 seconds is permitted for diagnostic."

# Pressure relief valve and venting system

- Primary pressure relief valve is used for venting
- Provisions in the R110 for venting:
  - 18.6.6. Vent line or connector The vent line or connector may be mounted inside or on the LNG tank (in a protected position). It should be readily accessible. The vent connector shall be suitable for the purpose at temperatures indicated in Annex 50 for the working pressure of the LNG tank.

### Pressure relief valve and venting system

18.6.7. Venting management system The primary pressure relief valve shall be piped to a vent stack which extends to a high level. The primary and secondary relief valve outlets shall be protected **by from** fouling by dirt, debris, snow, ice and/or water. The vent stack shall be sized to prevent flow restriction due to pressure drop. Gas exiting the vent stack or secondary relieve valve shall not impinge on enclosed areas, other vehicles, **exterior-mounted systems with air intake** (i.e. air-conditioning systems), engine intakes, or engine exhaust. In the case of dual tanks, the primary relief valve outlets piping for each tank may be manifold to a common stack.





**Vent-line** 

# Secondary relief valve

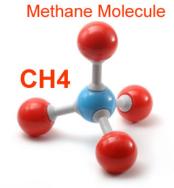
- The secondary relief valve is a redundancy of the primary relief valve
- The set pressure of the secondary relief value is higher than the primary relief value
- In case of an emergency the primary will operate as intend. Only in case that the primary relief valve is not working properly or can not handle the pressure build up enough the secondary relief valve is activated.

# Gas tight housing and natural gas detector

- **18.13.** The LNG system in category M vehicles shall be equipped with a natural gas detector and/or gas tight housing. The LNG system in category N vehicles may be equipped with a natural gas detector if the fuel storage tank and associated piping is mounted on the exterior of the vehicle without the possibility of gas trapping (as in paragraph 18.12.). If the fuel storage tank is located inside the cargo area of a category N vehicle then a natural gas detector and/or gas tight housing is mandatory.
  - Vehicles of the N and M classes are medium and heavy duty trucks

# Comparison between LNG and Diesel

- Methane can auto-ignite at 540°C if the methane content is within the flammability range.
- Methane is lighter than air at temperatures above -110°C. Small spillages of liquid methane quickly vaporize to atmosphere. Larger spillages of liquid methane remain on the ground and vaporize. The vaporization intensity depends on the substrate, the temperature and the area covered by the spillage. The substrate eventually cools, reducing the evaporation.
- Diesel puddles on the ground and does not vaporize quickly.
- Diesel can auto-ignite at <u>210 °C</u>





## **Crash accidents**

The following images are from an accident in Australia involving an LNG-fueled truck which rolled over, severely damaging the vehicle cab. As can be seen in the pictures, the LNG fuel tanks, which are mounted on a gantry at the back of the cab, were not penetrated and suffered only external damage.





The images below are from an LNG-truck in California with sidemounted fuel tanks. The truck rolled onto its side, causing significant damage to the truck. The LNG tanks were undamaged in the incident.



## Fire accidents

In 2008, a Polish LNG bus on a test ride caught fire due to the cracking of a hose carrying hydraulic oil which ignited in the engine space. The fire spread to the inside of the bus which burned out completely.

The engine and neighboring LNG tanks were in the hottest part of the fire where temperatures were hot enough to melt aluminum materials. The LNG tank and safeguards functioned as designed, releasing its methane through the primary and secondary pressure relief devices which ejected the gas in a safe direction. The gas combusted but did not add to the burning of the bus itself and the tanks depressurized without any explosive activity.







### **Fire accidents**

Figure 1.



Figure 1: This thermal melt down was attributed to cab wiring. An electrical short started the fire which was not put out immediately. The result was a destroyed cab. Note that the fire raged above and forward of the LNG tank. All photos were taken the day after the fire.

### Fire accidents

Figure 2: The LNG tank's contents were not affected by the fire's heat. The vacuum insulation that keeps the ambient temperature from reaching the inner tank also kept the much higher fire temperatures from reaching the inner tank.

The door to the LNG tank was closed during the fire; note the melted plastic tube and harness covering and the pressure gauge.

The tank pressure stayed below 0.89MPa.







# **Fire instructions**

- Fire instuctions should be provided to fire-brigades.
- As example for this document the "Procedures for emergencies arising during the transportation of liquid methane (LNG and LBG) Tankers and tank containers can be used. (produced by Swedisch Gas Association – interbranch organisation for operators in the biogas, vehicle gas, LPG, natural gas and hydrogen sectors.
- Example of paragraph is like following:

## **Fire instructions**

#### **5.4 Transport unit leaking with fire (Scenario:)**

The transport unit is leaking liquid and/or gaseous methane which is burning.

#### Action:

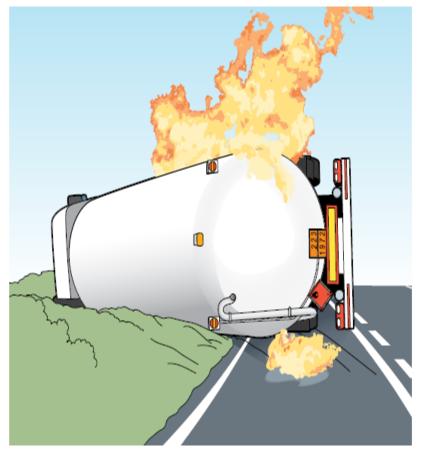
- Seal off an area with a radius of at least 300 m around the transport unit. The distance can be modified following consultation between the incident commander and the supplier.
- Stop all engines and remove all ignition sources except for the transport unit from the sealed area.
- Do not attempt to extinguish the fire without first cooling the part of the transport unit exposed to the radiated heat from the fire. Note: the water must not come into contact with the liquid methane. Water produces energy, which increases evaporation and may in turn increase the intensity of the fire. Note: extinguishing the leaking gases without shutting off the flow of gas creates a high risk of re-ignition. As previously mentioned, the tank construction provides a high level of passive fire protection.

#### **5.4 Transport unit leaking with fire**

#### Scenario:

The transport unit is leaking liquid and/or gaseous methane which is burning.





# **Fire instructions**

- If possible, remove other vehicles containing hazardous cargo from the risk zone. If this is not possible, these vehicles should also be cooled using water.
- Determine whether the leak can be stopped by shutting off the gas/liquid supply.
- If it is possible to extinguish the fire in order to allow the gas supply to be shut off, powder should be used as an extinguishing agent.
- If the fire cannot be extinguished, allow the gas to burn while the tank is cooled, until the tank is empty or the fire goes out.
- If the transport unit needs to be emptied, the procedure must be determined jointly by the incident commander and the supplier.
- The supplier must authorize removal of the transport unit.

# Design requirements on the LNG system

- The LNG/CNG tank(s) cylinders shall be at least 200 mm of the flour level (for diesel there are no shuch definitions)
- The mounting of the tanks shall comply with the Gforces mentioned in the regulation:
  - 18.4.4. The fuel container(s) and/or tank(s) shall be mounted and fixed so that the following accelerations can be absorbed (without damage occurring) when the container(s) and/or tank(s) are full.

Hold time test. (no venting allowed within 5 days)

- The LNG tank is tested at maximum allowed net quantity of LNG.
- Provisions are given in R110 annex 3B A.2

## $\int$

## Tests required on LNG Tank and components

#### Drop test

#### 2 drop tests are required

- 9 meter drop test of the fuel tank on the most critical area of the tank (other than the piping end).
- 3 meter drop test on the piping end.



igure 3: Tank Damage After 10 ft Drop Tes



Figure 4: Tank Damage After 30 ft Drop Test

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- Bonfire test
  - The bonfire tests are designed to demonstrate that finished tanks with the fire protection system (tanks valve, pressure relief valve and/or integral thermal insulation) specified in the design will not burst when tested under the specified fire conditions.
  - Provisions are given in R110 annex 3B A.1
  - The average temperature of the fire source shall remain above 590°C.



- The pressure inside the LNG tank will rise very slowly due to the insulation.
- LNG will be vented until the pressure is lowered like in normal use.
- Diesel will start to boil and the pressure in the tank will rise.
- Worst case the diesel tank will explode.



#### Material tests on the tank

- Tensile test
- Impact test
- Bending test
- Weld examination
- Low temperature test (-163°C).
  - All LNG components are to be tested at -163°C for leak tightness.
  - All duration tests on LNG components should use the low test temperature (-163°).

## Coming soon....clean, economical LNG for the transportation sector



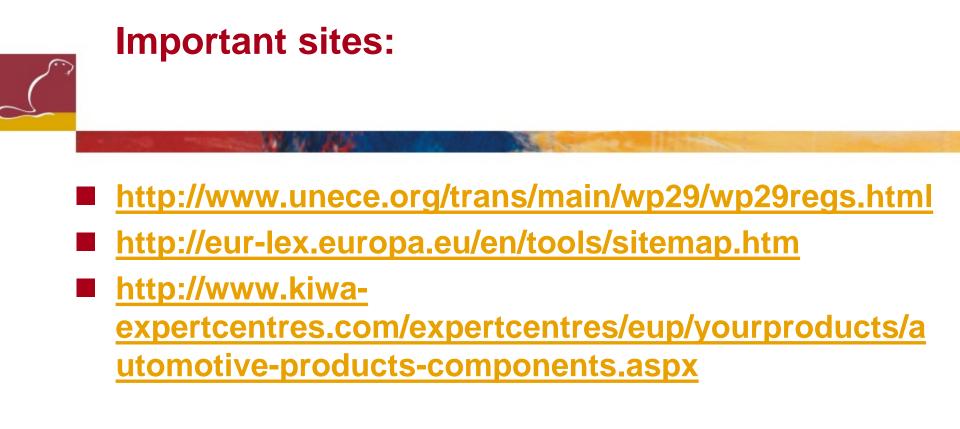














## On behalve of the LNG-TF Thanks for your attention

**Questions and Clarifications?** 

Informal Document presented to WP15 -Transport of Dangerous Goods 6 November 2013 United Nations Geneva

LNG: A SAFE FUEL FOR TRUCKS



### Purpose: Advocate for a change in ADR regulations that prevent LNG vehicles from being ADR-certified

• While LNG is allowed for general transport purposes it is not allowed for ADR-certified vehicles.

ADR regulations provide an exemption related to the carriage of gases so long as the gas is used for propulsion or operating on-board equipment.

Annex A: 1.1.3.2 Exemptions related to the carriage of gases

The provision laid down in ADR do not apply to the carriage of:

Gases contained in the tanks of a vehicle, performing a transport operation and destined for its propulsion or for the operation of any of its equipment (e.g. refrigerating equipment)

But.....

Annex A: Chapter 9.2. subsection 9.2.4.3 **Fuel tanks :** The fuel tanks for supplying the engine of the vehicle shall meet the following requirements:

In the event of <u>any leakage, the fuel shall drain to the ground</u> without coming into contact with hot parts of the vehicle or the load;



### **LNG Safety Characteristics**

- Natural gas liquefies at -163°C
- LNG is not flammable (due to its density). Only the vapor will ignite when the concentration is between 5% and 15% by volume in air.
- LNG is non-toxic, non-corrosive and does not contaminate soil or ground water.
- When spilled LNG, vaporizes creating a white cloud of condensed moisture.
- The vapor cloud is heavier than air until it reaches -112°C, then it disperses quickly (like methane in its normal gaseous state).

Source: LNG Safety: Integrating Standards, Regulations, Best Practices & Compliance, Douglas Horne, Clean Vehicle Education Foundation at LNG is Hot Workshop, Clean Fuels Consulting, Brussels 2009.



## Global Overview on the Development of LNG Trucks

- Summary world market for LNG & trucks
- European LNG truck development
- Development of LNG truck market: North America
- LNG truck developments: China & Australia
- Fuel suppliers' vision of LNG for trucks



## **Current Global View: HDV NGVs**

REGION	TOTAL NGVs	MD/HD BUSES	MD/HD TRUCKS	% MD/HDV TRUCKS of TOTAL NGVs
ASIA	9,733,192	390,849	155,207	1.6%
EURASIA	336,862	32,200	52,760	15.7%
AFRICA	188,220	1,463	85	0.45%
EUROPE*	1,735,115 (1,347,115)	278,472 (45,684)	193,759 (57,966)	11.2% (4.3%)
S & CENTRAL AMERICA	4,608,799	13,920	9,660	0.21%
NORTH AMERICA	131,036	13,230	~15,550 <sup>(1)</sup> (~4000 L-NGVs)	11.8%
WORLDWIDE	16,424,603	697,596	361,748	2.2%
*UKRAINE Source: Gas Vehicle Rep	388,000 ports, Aug/Septembe	<b>232,788</b> er 2012/13, NGVAmer	<b>135,793</b> rica	35%

(1) US/Canada NGV Market Analysis (segmentation), Tiax/ANGA,2010



International Standards & Regulations are Being Developed for L-NGVs

#### **United Nations Regulations**

- Amendments to R.110 for L-NGV components & installation (awaiting approval by WP29)
- Dual-fuel trucks (including LNG) R.49
- Fuel station signage agreed at UN (WP1)



**ISO Standards Development is on-going** 

- Fueling stations and storage require harmonized global regulations, current national standards are insufficient. (ISO standards underway)
- Tanks for on-board storage (ISO 1299/2012 standard completed)
- Harmonized fuel connector/receptacle needed (ISO standard underway)



## World Forecast LNG Trade Through to 2030

Forecast LNG Trade Through to 2030 (bcm)

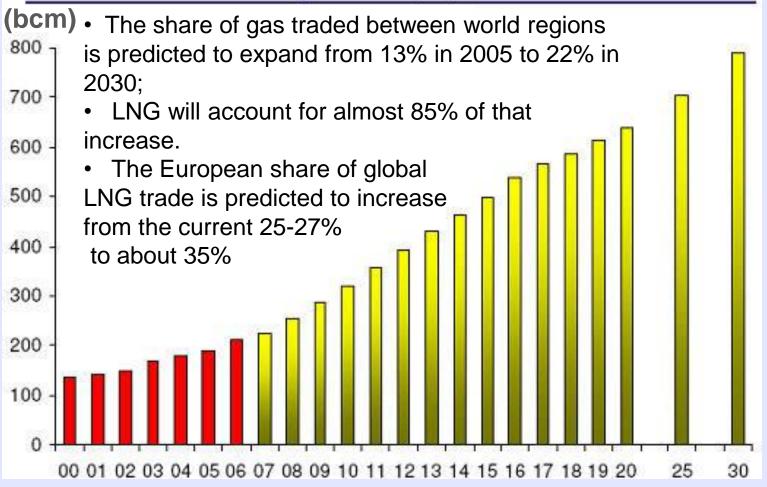
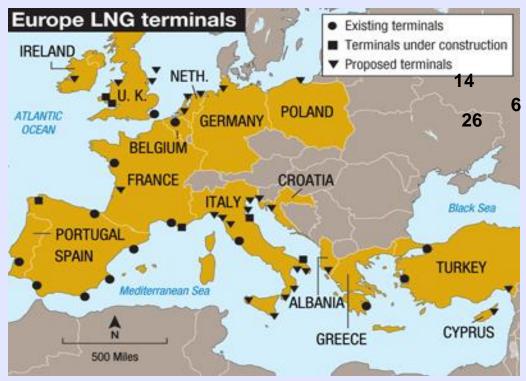


Image source & EU LNG projections: Ocean Shipping Consultants Limited (2008)



## Expansion of LNG terminals provide new opportunities for L-NGV fuelling stations in different countries



NG





## **European OEM LNG Trucks**

- IVECO Stralis LNG
- Mercedes
  Econic LNG

- Scania
  P310 LNG
- Volvo FM MethanDiesel

NGV Global

















## European LNG Truck Fleets Rolande

- Rolande (NL/F/D) supermarket distribution (12 lveco Stralis trucks)
- 6 L-CNG stations NL
- Fuel costs savings over diesel = €8,600 to €15,000 per vehicle per year (over 7 years)

Source: Rolande 2012









## European LNG Truck Fleets Simon Loos (NL)

- 30 Mercedes LNG trucks deployed in 2012
- Pollution reduction:
- CO2 -30%
- Particulates -85%
- Noise -30%
- 600-700 km range
- Fuel consumption = diesel











CHive LNG REFUELLING NETWORK: Some stations are inactive due to current LNG fleet demand (2013)





















## **Barcelona LNG Garbage Trucks**

- With five terminals currently in operation, Spain is the largest LNG market in Europe. (World's third-largest LNG importer after Japan and South Korea.)
- LNG makes up around 70% of Spanish natural gas supplies.
- For over 8 years LNG has been used as a transport fuel in Barcelona.
- Barcelona's LNG garbage trucks belong to CESPA and are hired by Barcelona city council.



Chassis is made by MAN and Ros-Roca, Indox, Messer and Gas Natural have assisted the project.





## LNG for Heavy Duty Vehicles (USA)



#### Passenger Bus





- 150 LNG fuelling stations
  (42 public)
- 4,000+ L-NGVs
  - Freightliner
  - Kenworth
  - Peterbilt
  - Autocar
  - Capacity
  - Navistar?
  - Volvo?

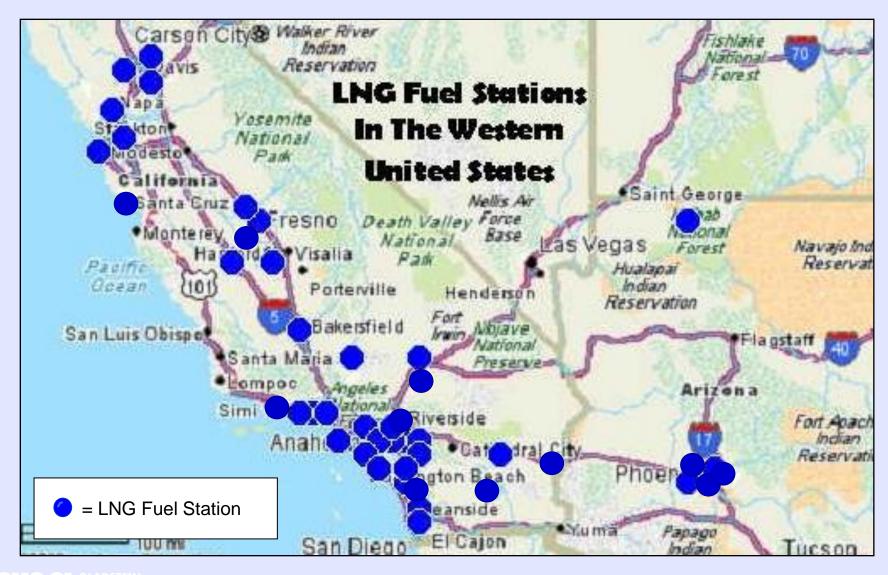


#### Street Sweeper

## Local, Regional HD NGV Trucks



### **LNG truck stations Western US**



## 41 L-NGV Stations in Southern California



& ASSOCIAT

## N. American LNG Truck Case Studies Vedder Transport

- Largest fleet in British Columbia, Canada
   high environmental commitment
- 50 new LNG tractors
- Hauling milk, food, forestry and waste products in dedicated service
- 3500 tonne annual GHGe reductions from implementation
- Cost reductions result in ~16 month payback
- I fuelling station public access







#### Westport<sup>®</sup>

## N. American LNG Truck Case Studies United Parcel Service

- Largest private fleet in USA environment, energy security concerns
- 82 new LNG tractors operating between Los Angeles, Las Vegas and Salt Lake City Distribution Centres
- 688 mile (1107 km) corridor with 3 fuel stations
- 4 fuelling stations
  - public access
- ~5100 tonne annual GHGe reductions from implementation





#### Westport

## LNG for Port Applications

#### (Examples in Long Beach, California, USA)









### CHINA 22 LNG receiving terminals being built 350 L-NGV Fuelling Stations; 13,300 L-NGVs\*



## Currently 10 Operational LNG Refueling Stations with 4 More Planned, All on Major



## LNG FOR TRUCKS The fuel suppliers' views....

# Also as fleet operators of trucks & ships



## Shell Vision LNG Vehicles Road & Marine Transport



LNG in Transport from vision into reality Lauran Wetemans – GM, DLNG



### Shell Vision for LNG Trucks in N. America: \$100m investment in LNG & L-CNG fuelling stations

#### **GREEN CORRIDOR - CANADA**



- Canadian Green Corridor, 1500 km
  Vancouver Calgary Edmonton
- Shell Flying J Network
- Sites opening end 2012





## Shell Vision... Europe



## **Shell view of LNG for Transport**



#### CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

#### **Conversion Cost**

- LNG refueling station will be 3-5 times more expensive then current diesel station
- Increased availability of LNG fuelled trucks at a lower cost
- Cost reduction across the supply chain

#### PRICING

- Governed to lower your total costs of ownership
- Enabling to provide customers a high quality fuel at discounted diesel prices

#### **REFUELING NETWORK**

- Network Plan for LNG sites on existing Truck network
- Align with customer priorities

## Linde is a leader supplier of LNG and LNG fuel stations

Linde North America has purchased 23 LNG trucks for own distribution fleet



- Peterbilt and Kenworth LNG trucks with LNG fuel system and 8.9L NG engine
  - Cummins West Port ISLG Engine
  - 350 HP
- Trucks deployed in Southern California, Texas and Midwest
- Lower weight, spark
  ignited units has even
  improved pay-load



Take-out: Good driver experience and economics in line with expectations. Linde always operating weight restricted which is limiting areas were low horse power engines can be used.



### Linde view of what's required for LNG to penetrate the heavy truck market

- Codes & standards need to come in place, beyond local ones
- Industry must put "Safety first"
- Gas quality requirements needs to be sorted out (not that easy)
- Never accept solutions allowing methane to free air to be adopted
- Hen & egg situation can be solved
- LNG and CNG goes hand-in-hand and LNG is not a viable option for every heavy vehicle!
- Biomethane likely to play significant role on many markets as transport fuel and EU wide regulations on certificate trading needed
- All stakeholders need to work close together to align expectations and set priorities during early market phase

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