

evolving

EVOL LNG fuels the Wettenhalls Group



A Wettenhalls Kenworth K108 B-Double Combination, similar to the LNG truck ordered.

The Wettenhalls Group, a national top 20 transport company with an 85 year history, has purchased its first LNG-powered truck, a Kenworth K108 B-Double. To be based at the Group's original home of Colac, Victoria, the truck will make daily round trips between Dandenong, Lara and the South-West of Victoria, covering an average distance of over 1,000 km per day in a 24/7 operation to maximise the environmental and economic benefits of using LNG.

The truck will be powered by the latest Westport High Pressure Direct Injection (HPDI) GX 15-Litre engine. This engine produces around 25 per cent less CO₂-e emissions than the equivalent diesel-powered Cummins ISX-EGR engine in the same conditions, with no loss of performance.

The K108 will refuel at EVOL LNG's multi-fleet refuelling facility at Deer Park, Melbourne and operations are expected to commence in the first quarter of 2010.

Wettenhalls' history is traced back to the formation of Amezdroz and Menzies (A&M) in Colac, Victoria in 1925, with a single 'REO Speed Wagon' 25HP truck. This company grew and became Amezdroz and Sons in 1984. A number of strategic acquisitions over the past 15 years, including small interstate carrier RA & S Wettenhall in 1997, has led to a rapid expansion. All of the Group's trucks were re-branded to Wettenhalls in 2004. Acquisitions in 2008 included Marchetti Transport and WRL Logistics.

Today, Wettenhalls is led by Group CEO Matthew Blizzard and owns a network of depots across four states, a truck fleet of over 300, has more than 500 staff, and boasted a turnover of well over \$100 million in 2009.

As a significant transport and logistics provider, Wettenhalls takes its environmental obligations very seriously. It is fully compliant with the

Federal Government's National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007. A recent statement from the company declares:

"...as part of our real and practical commitment to "Keep Moving Forward", we have developed our own rigorous environmental strategy. This identifies key issues and opportunities across the entire Group. We are well on the way to achieving our ambitious targets. The purchase of this LNG powered truck is a shining example of our determination to make an environmental difference."

When the first Wettenhalls LNG truck takes to the road in the coming weeks, it will be a practical demonstration of the Group's commitment to be at the forefront of the Australian transport industry's environmental agenda. EVOL LNG will provide operator and workshop training, technical support and information sessions to support the Wettenhalls Group as it begins to experience and enjoy the benefits of LNG.



LNG “the way to go” says leading transport operator

One of Western Australia’s leading refrigerated road transport providers, Sands Fridge Lines has strengthened its commitment to environmentally responsible operation by purchasing three Western Star trucks to run on LNG. These three new trucks will build on Sands’ fleet of 13 existing LNG-powered vehicles.

Local fuel system specialists, Advanced Fuel Technologies (AFT), began modifying the first trucks in February, 2010, with a view to having all three operating by the end of March 2010. The trucks will be fitted with the Clean Air Power (CAP) C15 Hawke dual fuel system that will provide the trucks with greater range than the CAP C15 Eagle system.

Sands Fridge Lines director, Kevin Sands, is a long-time advocate of natural gas for both economic and environmental reasons, and trialled his first dual-fuel (compressed natural gas – diesel) vehicles in 2001.

“We approached the exercise wholeheartedly, but after 18 months of trials and some tribulations, we came to the conclusion that CNG would never play a serious role in the heavy transport industry in Australia, primarily because of the size and weight of CNG tanks,” Mr Sands said.

A later series of trials with dual-fuelled LNG-diesel vehicles proved much more successful operationally, but did not fulfil all of the company’s environmental goals.

“The trials were funded in part by the Federal Government’s Alternative Fuel Conversion Program (AFCP), and when funding from this program ran out, further trials ceased,” he said.

This failed to dampen Kevin Sands’ determination to embrace alternative fuels.

“Oil is going to run out one day, and with stocks dwindling the price of diesel isn’t going to get any cheaper,” he said.

The development of EVOL LNG refuelling infrastructure by Wesfarmers rekindled Kevin Sands’ enthusiasm for the fuel, and he began investigating the merit of further expanding the use of LNG within his fleet. This initially

commenced with the introduction of two Isuzu trucks to run exclusively on LNG.

Extended trials on converted Isuzu 255 and 295HP trucks revealed that LNG could match the performance characteristics of diesel-powered vehicle while meeting environmental benchmarks. Following this, business growth demanded the introduction of additional larger vehicles and the Western Stars were the only vehicles available to fit the requirement.

Sands Fridge Lines operate extensively on return-to-base runs in the Perth metropolitan area and all major regional centres, allowing its trucks to refuel at the company’s Forrestfield base using a facility installed by EVOL. The new Western Stars will be geared to run daily to Kalgoorlie and also complete two runs to Broome each week. The expansion of EVOL LNG’s refueller network to include Mt Magnet and Newman will mean that Sands will be able to consume more LNG on the Broome run.

Additional EVOL LNG refuelling stations at Kalgoorlie and Geraldton mean that trucks can now also service those centres from Perth, running purely on LNG.

EVOL LNG joins forces with Asthma WA

At a time when the environment is on everyone's radar, the Asthma Foundation of WA and EVOL LNG formed a new partnership, based on their shared vision for improved air quality. According to Asthma Foundation of WA CEO, David Johnson, the alliance will yield many benefits.

"This new major partnership with EVOL LNG is an exciting step forward for the Asthma Foundation of WA and will assist the Foundation in striving for improved air quality," Mr Johnson said.

"Partnerships with the Foundation also assist with funding the ongoing provision of asthma services and medical research in Western Australia. These services include training and educating the community to manage

their asthma, understand their triggers and improve their living environments.

We thank EVOL LNG for contributing to a brighter future for those living with asthma," Mr Johnson said.

The use of LNG fuel improves air quality by providing a significant reduction in harmful particulate matter (PM) and nitrous oxide emissions, which are known asthma triggers.

Recent Federal Government testing also indicated that an LNG fuelled engine produced 25 per cent less greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂-e) than the equivalent diesel engine.

In commenting on EVOL LNG's major sponsorship agreement with the Foundation, EVOL LNG Manager, Brad Lowson said the two organisations shared several key goals which made the partnership ideal.

"Both the Asthma Foundation and EVOL LNG are focused on improving air quality for West Australians and EVOL LNG is committed to supporting the communities in which it operates," Brad said.

The prevalence of asthma in Australia was another reason why EVOL LNG has chosen to support the Asthma Foundation of WA.

"Given that Australia has one of the highest incidences of asthma in the world, this is an extremely important cause for EVOL LNG to become involved in," Brad said. "The Asthma Foundation of WA is all about promoting a clean and healthy air environment; this is a goal that EVOL LNG is assisting in by encouraging the use of LNG as an alternative fuel in heavy vehicles."



Technical & Maintenance Conference (TMC)

EVOL LNG was a proud participant in last November's Technical & Maintenance Conference (TMC), providing an interactive exhibit as well as lending its expertise to the speaking panel.

Jointly hosted by the Australian Trucking Association (ATA) and the Australian Road Transport Suppliers Association (ARTSA), the conference was well attended by almost 300 delegates ranging from truck and equipment suppliers to fleet workshop managers, technicians and transport fleet owners.

The EVOL LNG stand was well-positioned and showcased LNG truck technology, including a cutaway LNG tank and JC Carter type dispenser nozzle; this generated a significant level of interest and enquiry. On hand to field questions were EVOL LNG technical 'gurus', Melbourne-based Peter Powell and Peter Armstrong from Perth.

EVOL LNG East Coast Business Manager Simon Humphries, also played a role as a speaker and chairman of a session covering alternative fuels. Simon put forth a positive

case for the use of LNG in heavy trucks along with CNG in light and medium duty vehicles. This session proved popular amongst attendees and received a positive response.

The TMC is the only event of its type held in Australia, and given the response to last year's event despite the tough economic climate, plans are already underway for an even better program in November.



EVOL LNG and ConocoPhillips exploring the future of energy

EVOL LNG supplied LNG for the recent educational workshops held by ConocoPhillips in Perth, Brisbane and Gladstone. The exciting and informative sessions involved interactive demonstrations using LNG to illustrate why it's one of the safest, most reliable and cleanest sources of energy available.

A big thank you to EVOL LNG's Peter Powell, Peter Armstrong, Grant Dalziell and Shannon Lowe for their help during these events, including a lot of work out of hours. Their dedication and professionalism is extraordinary, and no doubt the shows wouldn't have been such a success without them.



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