### Planes, Training & Deals - CNG Kickoff for 2017

This first issue of the year covers big additions of CNG trucks at DIA, Lincoln Tech's training program roll-out at this week's Clean Cities event, and RAQC's cash grant funding round in March. We also link you to updated and new features such as our fuel price comparisons and calendar of events.



#### Denver International Airport Receives Fleet of Dedicated CNG GM Pickups

You've heard us talk about how the baggage Tugs at DIA must use electric or CNG fueled vehicles to operate in the tunnels that connect the terminal and concourses, but what about DIA operations? Of all the airports in the world, DIA is one of the top five "greenest" in its operations. This includes the vendors, energy systems, buildings, workers and of course, Denver International Airport's Maintenance Department. The 24 model year 2016 Chevy 2500s being delivered to the airport by Redmark with CNG fuel systems are nothing new to the crew that runs them. Redmark has partnered with John Elway Chevrolet as the dealership selling the new trucks to DIA.



The DIA Maintenance Department has been running CNG trucks for decades, one of the earliest leaders in deploying clean fuel vehicles in Rocky Mountain Region. And, their CNG vehicles are all dedicated, meaning they only run on natural gas. In fact, some of the first fueling stations built in Colorado were made specifically for their fleet when Stapleton International Airport was still in operation. Today, there are six private CNG stations located within the secure airfield operations and one large public station located on the public access side of the airport. The



second wave of CNG Chevy 2500s for model year 2017 will be comprised of nearly 20 units.

#### Lincoln College of Technology Rolls-out Breakthrough CNG Technician Course

Lincoln College of Technology runs a state-of-the-art light and heavy-duty vehicle technician training program at its Denver facility located at I-70 and Havana. They are adding a natural gas vehicle directed curriculum to their technician training program in addition to already offering the CSA natural gas fuel tank training and certification program. With rising oil prices and an increased use of CNG/LNG in fleets with pick-ups to Class 8 tractors, this is a timely addition for the industry.

Lincoln Tech is shooting to be ahead of the transportation technology curve as tighter emission regulations, hectic international trade issues and slimmer profit margins become bigger challenges for fleets. Alternative Fuels Instructor, Randy Cowan, has foreseen the necessity for this course. He has been toiling away on its development for the past year or two all while teaching two full time classes at Lincoln Tech. The Redmark team has been working with Randy and others to provide an inside perspective as leaders in the CNG industry.

February 9th marks the grand opening of this course at Lincoln Tech and its launch is coordinated with the three Colorado Clean Cities Coalitions' (Northern, Southern and Denver Metro) first stakeholders meeting for 2017. The stakeholders meeting, associated trade show and alternative fuel vehicle ride-and-drive will be hosted by Lincoln Tech and offer attendees a great opportunity to see their facility and learn about the courses.

Redmark will sponsor the breakfast at this event and participate in the trade show plus make a panel presentation. If you are looking to put faces to our name, come to our exhibit table for a conversation! To learn more about attending, click on this link:

http://lungwalk.org/CleanCitiesWebsite/wordpress/event/1346/





# ALT Fuels Colorado CNG Vehicle Purchase Grants - Round 9 in March

The ALT Fuels Colorado program is a joint effort among the Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC), Colorado Energy Office and the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). The vehicle cash grant aspect of this program, called Clean Air Fleets (CAF), totals \$15 million and is managed by RAQC and is coming up on its 9th round for grant applications. The money is sourced from federal funds that are allocated to the Colorado Department of Transportation. Since 2014, the RAQC has helped fleets deploy approximately 600 clean fuel vehicles with \$8.5 million of grants.

These grants cover 80% of the CNG, LPG or EV new vehicle option cost, applicable to Class 2 through Class 8 vehicles up to limits that are different for private sector and public sector fleets (local and state government fleets). Most of the grants so far have been issued to private sector fleets simply because public sector fleets have not taken advantage of the program including State of Colorado agencies. Below is the table that shows the dollar caps per fleet and vehicle type. Direct purchase and leased vehicles are eligible.

Public and Non-profit Fleets	Private Sector Fleets
\$7,000	\$3,000
\$25,000	\$15,000
\$35,000	\$22,000

Fleets that receive grant funding must operate each vehicle (60% of its mileage) in the 11-county air quality non-attainment area, essentially the Front Range of Colorado from Fort Collins and Greeley to Colorado Springs. For public sector fleets only, the DOLA program can provide grants for vehicles located outside of the 11-county area and may provide complementary funding to fleets that receive RAQC grants. For private sector fleets state-wide, the alternative fuel tax credit



program is also available. As a result, private sector fleets that receive the RAQC grants and tax credits can off-set most of the CNG vehicle option cost much like public sector fleets can do with just the RAQC or DOLA grants.

Three rounds per year are conducted by the RAQC to receive CAF cash grant applications, with a handful of upcoming rounds left in the system through 2018. School districts and foundations, refuse companies, utilities, energy companies, local and state municipalities, trucking fleets, public & charter schools and academies, bakeries, local delivery companies, leasing companies, travel centers and others have taken advantage of RAQC grants. The folks at the RAQC are always happy to help fleets with the application process even when a round is applications. More open and accepting information is available at:

http://cleanairfleets.org/programs/alt-fuelscolorado

## **REDMARK E-News Room**



**February** 

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Come join us at Lincoln Tech in Denver for the Clean Cities event this week.

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