

London Police Service Propane-Fuelled Fleet



Did you know?

While propane has been proven the best alternative fuel for fleet vehicles such as delivery trucks and taxis, what about usages where performance is key, such as police vehicles?

- The police service in London, Ontario, Canada **recognized the environmental and cost advantages of propane** back in 1982 and tested two converted vehicles.
- The results of ongoing tests since then have been so impressive that the London Police Service has now converted more than half of its fleet to propane, **including 87 of their powerful Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor models.**



What are we doing?

Propane was the clear choice for fuelling patrol cars and other vehicles for the London Police Service.

- Clean-burning propane is safer for the environment than traditional fuels -- non-toxic, it will not contaminate soil or water, it is not a greenhouse gas, it contains no lead and it has extremely low levels of sulphur, a contributor to acid rain.
- Propane-powered vehicles produce 27% fewer greenhouse gases than gasoline-powered ones, and lower amounts of toxic cancer-causing chemicals and air pollutants than either gasoline or diesel models.

Along with these green benefits, propane offers other strong advantages for fleet use:

- Propane prices are an average 35%-36% lower per litre than gasoline or diesel, and less likely to change rapidly (no 'price shock' at the pumps!). The London Police Service has experienced even greater than average savings in recent years, reporting approximately 47.5% lower costs per litre from 2007 through 2009.
- Propane vehicles often have lower maintenance costs, fewer scheduled service visits, longer engine life, and higher resale value than gasoline vehicles.

- Propane fuel tanks are 20 times more puncture-proof than gasoline tanks and propane can withstand much higher temperatures than gasoline, an important factor in the prevention of fires or explosions in the case of an accident.
- New propane technology allows vehicles to virtually match their gasoline counterparts in acceleration and power.

What is the result?

- The London Police Service reports it is saving nearly CAD\$18,000 over the life of a typical vehicle, thanks to the lower fuel and maintenance costs of propane. The result -- millions of dollars in savings since 1982.
- Police officers have not had to sacrifice vehicle performance; testing by the

London Police Service found their propane models provide 97% of the horsepower of gasoline-powered cruisers and go from 0-60 kilometres per hour only half a second slower.

- And the police service reports no safety problems with their propane vehicles, which are stored in an underground

garage, even after serious collisions and despite demanding daily use.

- The outstanding safety, cost, environmental and reliability record of these propane-powered police cars has resulted in a waiting list of people hoping to buy the used vehicles at auctions.