

New York City Company Delivers Beer and Clean Air

Manhattan Beer Distributors, headquartered in the Bronx, operates a fleet of over 500 trucks, vans, sedans and forklifts. The company initiated a medium-duty compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicle program at its facilities, after receiving \$1.6 million in funding from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). The funds were used to cover a portion of the incremental cost of re-powering 30 conventional diesel delivery trucks to operate on CNG, and for a new CNG fueling station. Manhattan Beer Distributors contributed over \$4.6 million to the project. The funds come from the New York City Private Fleet Alternative Fuel Vehicles Program which awards federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds through a partnership with the New York City Department of Transportation.

The goals of the project are to:

1. Re-power (30) International Harvester 4700 Series Trucks with Dedicated John Deere 6068 HFN CNG Engines;
2. Displace roughly 108,000 gallons of petroleum per year for 10 years or approximately 1,080,000 gallons over the project lifetime;
3. Displace roughly 20 tons of Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx), 10 tons of Hydrocarbons (HC), 200 tons of Carbon Monoxide(CO), and 2 tons of Particulate Matter(PM) over the life of the vehicles;
4. Prove that oil change intervals can be extended out to 12,000 miles and save money with decreased fuel costs compared to diesel;



***Manhattan Beer's CNG trucks
are covered with a special
wrap that promotes their
environmental benefits.***

5. Increase the visibility of natural gas powered trucks in Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx through a truck wrap marketing program shown below;
6. Improve the work environment for the employees; and
7. Eventually reach its goal of 100% of the Manhattan Beer Distributor fleet being powered with CNG.

The driving force for the project was Manhattan Beer's desire to prove the viability of dedicated CNG engines in a private delivery fleet application and reduce the pollution in the South Bronx community where it is headquartered. Manhattan Beer also believes that the environmental benefits to employees are an important factor that cannot be ignored. The reduction of diesel emissions from the trucks, which are loaded and unloaded inside the warehouse, is a quality of life issue that the company believed it could improve. It realized the hidden costs associated with the environment in which workers operate. Plus, according to Mike McCarthy, Manhattan Beer's Vice-President "it's just the right thing to do."

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