

Title: Alternative Fuel Transit Bus Evaluation Results

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Publication Date: Dec 1996

Summary:

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory established the Alternative Fuel Transit Bus Evaluation Program to collect operating and maintenance data for the transit industry within the United States. The program began in 1993 to collect detailed operations information on alternative fuel and diesel buses at selected transit agencies. Reliability, operating and capital costs, emissions, fuel economy, and safety of alternative fuel bus operations have been examined in this program. The alternative fuels studies include natural gas (LNG and CNG), methanol, ethanol, biodiesel blends, and propane. Diesel particulate traps also were studied as an alternative to fuel changes until the traps were removed from the market.

Alternative fuels already have made significant inroads into the transit bus market, and the technology is continuing to grow in its applicability. The alternative fuel engines in this program have proven to be successful with only a few years of product development - compared to decades for the diesel engine. The results of this program show that alternative fuels are competing well with diesel in many areas.

For a complete copy of the report, including technical engineering evaluations of the test data, please contact the National Renewable Energy Laboratory at 1-800-423-1363 or on the Internet at www.afdc.doe.gov.

Market Segment: Transit

Accessibility: Public

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