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Water District's Success: A Cover Story

A recent edition of "American City and County" magazine featured fleet manager Doug Keene and the Las Vegas Valley Water District's AFV program. Highlighted was Doug Keene's solution to the "clean air versus cost" conundrum by converting 230 of his fleet's 757 vehicles and equipment to operate on biodiesel. Virtually all of the District's diesel powered automotive vehicles, as well as its construction equipment like backhoes and front-end loaders, currently operate on biodiesel.



Fleet Manager Doug Keene with a few of the Water District's 230 biodiesel vehicles.

LVVWD was the first fleet in the Valley to begin using biodiesel. "The Water District actually helped bring biodiesel to Las Vegas," noted Keene. "We have a responsibility for air quality for both today and the fu-

ture. We are helping to pave the way for other fleets to successfully use biodiesel."

With increasingly tight budgets, city, county and state governments are turning more and more to biodiesel as the alternative fuel of choice for medium and heavy-duty vehicles. Switching to biodiesel doesn't require mechanical modifications to the vehicles but still allows covered fleets to satisfy Energy Policy Act and/or state government requirements.

In Las Vegas, biodiesel is provided to fleets by Haycock Distributing. The fuel is produced using recycled cooking oils obtained from local hotels.

For more information about the LVVWD's use of biodiesel, contact Doug Keene at (702) 258-3151.

LVRCC Wins \$3,000 Award from GM

General Motors recently announced that the Las Vegas Regional Clean Cities Coalition was one of the top five recipients of cash incentives for Clean Cities Coalitions. The \$3,000 award was announced at the 9th National Clean Cities Conference and Exposition held in Palm Springs May 18-21. Incentives were based on an evaluation of Clean Cities Coalitions whose members actively marketed and purchased General Motors alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs) during the 2002 model year.

To win the award, LVRCC members not only purchased a significant number of GM AFVs during the qualifying period, but also held a highly successful fleet outreach

meeting last June, with more than 90 attendees.

"We are extremely excited about being one of the top five award winners in the GM program," noted Dan Hyde, LVRCC coordinator. "These funds will be used to support additional outreach efforts to fleet operators who are currently not operating AFVs."

The top award of \$15,000 was presented to the Twin Cities Clean Cities Coalition in Minnesota for its strong efforts towards marketing flexible fuel vehicles (FFVs) capable of operating on either E85 (a blend of 85% ethanol and 15% gasoline) or gasoline.