

Iveco in Amsterdam presents the Stralis LNG Natural Power

Iveco, the Fiat Industrial Group company, today presented its new Stralis LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) vehicle at the "Bedrijfsauto 2012", held at the RAI exhibition centre in Amsterdam. This natural gas vehicle is perfectly suited for medium range distribution and night-time deliveries and is being sold throughout Europe, starting from today.

The Stralis LNG Natural Power is ideal for regional and national distribution missions, such as fuel transportation. The vehicle on display is a two axle tractor unit with semi-trailer, Cursor 8 natural gas engine with a power rating 330 HP, manual gearbox, production line Intarder and EBS. It is built for applications carrying between 18 and 40 tons.

Today, the use of natural gas-powered vehicles represents an investment of great social importance, but also an economic advantage for vehicle operators. One of the key benefits of the LNG technology is that it guarantees a much greater range for vehicles, that can reach up to 750 km.

In addition to the considerable advantages in terms of reduced emissions, which the CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) technology already guarantees, the LNG system also enables a reduction in unladen weight, which leads to an increase in load carrying capacity. For regional distribution missions it has been estimated that savings of up to 10,000 Euros are possible compared with a traditional Diesel-powered vehicle, over a distance of approximately 40,000 km per year. On refuse collection and recycling missions it is estimated that the saving can be up to 20,000 Euros per year.

"The natural gas vehicle technology represents a priority for Iveco's activities," said Alessandro Mortali, Senior Vice President Heavy Range at Iveco. "We are among the few manufacturers to have had the foresight to understand the importance of methane as an alternative energy source".

Ever since 1995, Iveco has paid great attention to natural gas propulsion. Today, the company is the only commercial and industrial vehicle manufacturer to offer a complete range of methane-powered commercial vehicles and it is the European leader in the research and marketing of these vehicles, with 11,000 vehicles circulating in private company and public sector fleets.

In vehicles using CNG technology the methane is stocked in gas form in steel tanks at a pressure of 200 bars. In LNG vehicles, the liquefied natural gas is stored in liquid form at -125°C, in cryogenic tanks, and is fed to the engine as natural gas in a gaseous state, after been heated in a heat exchanger.

The market opportunities for these vehicles are particularly strong in the food and beverage sectors, fuel transportation, among logistics operators and firms engaged in night-time delivery, where the reduction of noise levels is guaranteed by spark ignition engines. On average the noise reduction for natural gas fuelled Stralis vehicles is between 3 and 6 decibels compared to a vehicle with the same power rating running on Diesel.

Recently, these vehicles have been tested by important European customers: the results are positive and prove that the potential uses of this vehicles are much broader and include a variety of delivery missions.

The LNG models will soon also be available in the 2 and 3 axle rigid versions, for urban and out of town missions with a 16 speed manual transmission and hydraulic retarder. Alternatively vehicles can be specified with a 6 speed automatic transmission with hydraulic torque converter and integrated retarder. The natural gas Cursor 8 engine complies with the Euro VI emission limit values which will come into force in 2014.

Iveco's natural gas-powered commercial vehicles can already use bio-methane, one of the sources of renewable energy with the best credentials in terms of reduction of CO₂ emissions.

Iveco

Iveco, a company of the Fiat Industrial Group, designs, builds and markets a wide range of light, medium and heavy weight commercial vehicles, quarry/building site vehicles, urban and extra-urban buses and special vehicles for purposes such as fire-fighting, off-road missions, Defence and Civil Defence.

With approximately 25,000 employees, Iveco produced in 11 countries throughout the world, using the best possible technologies. In addition to Europe, the company is also present in China, Russia, Australia and Latin America. Over 5,000 sales and servicing outlets in over 160 countries guarantee assistance in every geographical area where an Iveco vehicle is at work.

Turin, 17 April 2012