

Bronx Community College hosts clean truck fuel lecture at Gould Library

Compressed natural gas (CNG) powered engine trash trucks are the environmentally friendly technology New York City public and private fleet owners should explore to lower high pollution levels emitted by diesel powered trucks which spew out exhaust that contains soot, smog-forming nitrous oxides and a variety of carcinogens, according to a group of speakers gathered at Bronx Community College September 20 at an event hosted by the college's Center for Sustainable Energy.

Federal tax incentives and grants from New York State can offset costs for many of the environmentally cleaner technologies that power more and more vehicles coming into the marketplace today.

That's the message Clean Energy of California and Hallahan Truck Sales of Suffolk County delivered to an audience in an outdoor presentation on the steps of Gould Memorial Library (GML) on the Bronx Community College campus.

From a lectern between the GML columns, under a shimmering blue sky, speakers included James Quigley, Operations director of the Center for Sustainable Energy, who emceed the event, Bronx Community College president Carolyn G. Williams, who offered welcoming remarks, and Paul Lipson, chief-of-staff of Congressman José E. Serrano who has helped secure government funds for BCC's Center for Sustainable Energy, talked of the importance of the new and

cleaner vehicular technologies. Also speaking in favor of the new technology was Antonia Bryson former deputy commissioner in charge of New York City's air and noise pollu-

tion control and hazardous materials programs. She led one of the largest programs in the country seeking to convert vehicles to alternative fuels. On display, parked near the lectern,

was the compressed natural gas AUTOCAR Xpeditor heavy-duty refuse truck for the audience to view.

"I believe that compressed natural powered engines provide the most environmental benefits. The burning of this energy gives off fewer hydrocarbon, particulates and carbon monoxide which contribute to greenhouse gases," stated Clement Drummond, BCC's new director of the Automotive Technology Program.

James Harger, senior vice president, Marketing & Sales for Clean Energy, a California-based company cited the decision by Long Island's Smithtown to purchase a whole new trash truck fleet powered by compressed natural gas as an example of a municipality that learned the long term benefits of compressed natural gas.

"This is the first large scale compressed natural gas deployment in a refuse application outside of California," explained Harger.

"Every time we replace a diesel engine truck, it's the equivalent to removing 325 autos off the road. This results in a steep reduction in pollutants that are linked to asthma, bronchitis and other diseases. Research has shown that one in five children in the Bronx have asthma he stated. Vice president Gregory Hallahan of Hallahan Truck Sales of Holtsville, NY in Suffolk County, demonstrated by throwing a white cloth over the exhaust pipe of the idling refuse truck. The cloth showed no traces of soot after a minute.



Clean Energy's Garnet Glover (left); James N. Harger, senior vice president, Marketing & Sales; Peter Grace, vice president Leasing & Sales; Bronx Community College president Carolyn G. Williams; George Sanchez, vice president of Academic Affairs; Gregory Hallahan, vice president of Sales of Hallahan Truck Sales; and James Quigley, Operations director of the Center for Sustainable Energy stand next to compressed natural gas (CNG) trash truck showcased on the BCC campus.