



PROPANE BUS FLEET

CASE STUDY

DALLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS

Transportation Department
612 N. Zang Blvd.
Dallas, Texas 75208
Transportation Director: Tim Jones (214) 944-4520, tjones@dcschools.com

BACKGROUND FACTS

Largest propane school-bus fleet in State of Texas
908 sq. miles, 320,000 students
Transports 11 million student passengers annually
Annual school-bus mileage – 20,000,000+
Current annual usage of propane – 870,000 gals.

FLEET FACTS

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|--|---|
| Total School Buses 1,545 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 545 Propane• 918 Diesel• 82 Other | Total Other Vehicles 216 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9 Propane• 58 Diesel• 149 Gasoline |
|--|---|

Refueling facilities: 7
Gallons on-site propane storage: 106,000 gallons
Years using propane: 15 years

PROPANE COST SAVINGS

Annual savings to district through use of propane:
LPG has historically been 30 percent less expensive to gasoline. The current IRS rebate of \$0.50/gal is creating a \$400,000 per year saving for Dallas County Schools.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/QUOTES

Dallas County Schools has also retrofitted over 550 diesel buses to lower emission technology as well as purchasing the lowest emission standards available. Dallas County Schools' Board of Trustees has resolved to require lower emission purchases. DCS has adopted an anti-idling procedure and guidelines as well.

"The OEM LPG bus and new retrofit LPG systems are very exciting for DCS to renew our LPG lower emission fleet."

--Tim Jones, Director of Transportation



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PROPANE BUS FLEET

C A S E S T U D Y

DENTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Transportation Department
5093 East McKinney
Denton, Texas 76208
(940) 369-0300 or (940) 369-0097
Transportation Director: Gene Holloway

BACKGROUND FACTS

Fourth largest propane school-bus fleet in State of Texas
180 sq. miles, 20,870 students
Transports 1.8 million student passengers annually
Annual school-bus mileage: 1.7 million miles
Current annual usage of propane: 300,000+ gals.

FLEET FACTS

Total school buses: 144

- 77 Propane
- 36 Bio-diesel equipped with particulate filters
- 31 Unleaded (scheduled for replacement with propane units)

Purchased: 44 Blue Bird propane buses, April 25, 2008; delivery August-Sept., 2008
Other vehicles:
14 diesel (box trucks, riding lawn mowers, backhoe, 1-ton pickup, 3-ton box trucks)
1 propane (forklift)
49 unleaded (pickups, passenger/cargo vans, tow truck, dump truck, bucket truck)
Propane refueling facilities: 1, dual-pump capability; 2 satellite facilities planned
Gallons on-site propane storage: 18,000 gallons
Years using propane: 13 years

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/QUOTES

Denton I.S.D. is committed to being a leader in the campaign to promote clean air. At D.I.S.D., "We practice what we teach!" Our fleet life-cycle replacement program is focused on becoming 100 percent propane. The Railroad Commission of Texas Propane Incentive Programs will assist us in this effort. The 50¢ per gallon offered by the Motor Fuel Tax Credit Program and the Propane Vehicle Initiative Program can provide D.I.S.D. with approximately \$1.8 million in funding to augment our current propane program. --Gene Holloway



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PROPANE BUS FLEET

C A S E S T U D Y

NORTHSIDE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Transportation Department
12005 Leslie Road
Helotes, Texas 78254
(210) 397-0900
Transportation Director: Rafael Salazar

BACKGROUND FACTS

Second-largest propane school-bus fleet in State of Texas
355 sq. miles, 85,000 students
Transports 40,000 students each day
Annual school-bus mileage: 8,000,000 miles
Current annual usage of propane: 450,000 gallons

FLEET FACTS

Total School Buses 685

- 351 Propane
- 324 Diesel
- 31 Unleaded

Total Other Vehicles

- 0 Propane
- 1 Diesel
- 26 Gasoline

Propane refueling facilities: 4
Gallons on-site propane storage: 56,000 gallons total at four stations
(South 8,000 gal., Culebra 12,000 gal., North 12,000 gal., and Rhodes 12,000 gal.)
Years using propane: 27

PROPANE COST SAVINGS

Annual savings to district through use of propane:
* 2007 Federal Propane Tax Credit estimated at \$226,079
* Average cost per gallon between Propane (\$1.54) and Diesel (\$3.00)

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/QUOTES

We were one of the first school districts to make a commitment to propane, and the first customer in the country to purchase the new dedicated propane Blue Bird buses in 2007. Northside ISD is taking delivery of 16 propane school buses this year, and our community and our staff recognize and enjoy the cleanliness of propane.

--Rafael Salazar



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PROPANE BUS FLEET

CASE STUDY

ALVIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Transportation Center

2780 W. Highway 6

Alvin, Texas 77511

Transportation Director: John Ralph, jralph@alvinisd.net, (281) 245-2992

Fleet Maintenance Manager: Butch Passmore, rpasmore@alvinisd.net

BACKGROUND FACTS

Fifth largest propane school-bus fleet in State of Texas

250 sq. miles, 15,334 students

Transports 1,242,000 students annually

Annual school-bus mileage: 1,962,500 miles

Current annual usage of propane: 206,146 gallons

FLEET FACTS

Total School Buses 128

- 73 Propane
- 81 Diesel

Total Other Vehicles

- 4 Propane
- 4 Diesel
- 97 Gasoline

Refueling facilities: 1

Gallons on-site propane storage: 18,000 gallons

Years using propane: 27 years

PROPANE COST SAVINGS

Annual savings to district through use of propane:

Current price this week (April 28-May 2, 2008) for propane is \$1.79/gal vs. \$3.51/gal for diesel. We also receive a \$0.50/gal. rebate for propane used. In 2006-07, we received \$92,152.00 in rebates. Vehicle maintenance is reduced due to greater brake and tire life with propane, mainly due to the inherent braking of the throttled engine and less weight on the steering axle.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/QUOTES

The new generation propane engine shows promise of fuel mileage that comes close to the mileage we experience with diesel. A demo propane bus was impressive while doubling the mileage we experienced with current propane powered-buses.

Driver comments: "Wow!". Bus accelerates quicker, shortening the route time for students.

Environmental considerations: These engines require no particulate trap or the related services. The emissions are lower due to the inherently cleaner-burning fuel. The emission system has proved itself for over 30 years of use. The engine has a smaller environmental footprint due to the decreased uses of lubricants and coolant.

--John Ralph



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