Propane Autogas Vehicles
Fact Sheet

A Domestic Resource

- Propane autogas is the leading alternative fuel in the United States and the third most commonly used vehicle fuel, following gasoline and diesel.

- More than 17 million on-road vehicles worldwide are fueled by propane autogas and 270,000 of those are on roads in the United States, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

- 90 percent of the United States propane autogas supply is produced domestically, with an additional 7 percent from Canada.

- About 60 percent of propane used in the U.S. comes from natural gas refining, and the remaining comes from petroleum during the refining process.

Readily Available

- Vehicles fueled by propane autogas include buses, taxis, trucks, vans, shuttles, delivery vehicles, and other fleet vehicles.

- There are thousands of propane autogas refueling stations in the United States, with stations in every state.

- Many fleet managers elect to install low- or no-cost on-site refueling infrastructure, eliminating trips to off-site stations. Underground storage tanks are an option for long-term use or aboveground portable refueling platforms can be replaced or removed as needed.

Environmental and Economic Benefits

- Light-duty fleet vehicles that run on propane autogas emit fewer greenhouse gases, smog-producing hydrocarbons, and particulate emissions than gasoline-fueled light-duty vehicles. When compared with gasoline, vehicles fueled by propane autogas produce:
  - 17-25 percent less greenhouse gases.
  - 20 percent less nitrogen oxide.
  - Up to 60 percent less carbon monoxide.

- Propane autogas burns cleaner in engines than gasoline and diesel, which results in reduced maintenance costs and the potential for longer engine life.

- For more than 30 years, the cost of propane autogas has been, on average, 30 percent less than the costs of gasoline.

- Vehicles fueled by propane autogas have an initial purchase price that can be $4,000 to $16,000 more than that of gasoline- or diesel-fueled vehicle, but the extra cost is offset by the lower fuel and maintenance costs of propane autogas over the life of the vehicle. Payback periods for high-mileage fleet vehicles are even shorter.
Safety and Performance Characteristics

- Propane autogas is a nontoxic, non-carcinogenic and non-corrosive fuel.

- Propane autogas vehicle fuel tanks are 20 times more puncture-resistant than gasoline or diesel tanks. They are constructed from carbon steel in compliance with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

- Liquid propane autogas injection systems offer equivalent horsepower, torque and towing capacity as gasoline-fueled counterparts.

- Vehicles fueled by propane autogas are a good choice for fleet managers to achieve performance, economic and sustainability goals.

Learn More

- ROUSH CleanTech: ROUSHcleantech.com

- Propane Education & Research Council: autogasusa.org

- Department of Energy’s Clean Cities: cleancities.energy.gov