

GREEN SOLUTIONS

Making Dollars and Sense

TRADITIONALLY A PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICE NEEDS TWO THINGS: LANDLINE PHONES AND FUEL.

While communication has improved for much of the taxi industry, fuel has remained the same. That is, except for at Badger Cab. In 1978, Tom Melms bought Badger Cab. Shortly thereafter, fuel shortages and a 75-cent price increase called for out of the box thinking. By 1981 Badger Cab was 100% converted to dual gasoline and propane, using propane or autogas, as the primary source... and the rest is history.

The company converted to remain price competitive, but it also allows them to be very green as propane is a clean burning fuel. Once installed, the mechanics of the vehicle are no different than a gasoline operated vehicle according to Badger Cab's lead mechanic. Maintenance costs are also dramatically lower right down to the oil change. These cars experience tough city driving and where a gasoline fueled vehicle would need an oil change at 2K miles, a propane fueled vehicle at Badger can easily be changed at 5K because of how cleanly the propane burns. Besides lower maintenance costs, this cab service maintains cars that they can keep on the road for 350K miles and the reason for taking them out of the fleet is not from the engines going bad! They have even had one taxi go 507K miles before it was decommissioned.



CONSIDER THAT A VEHICLE RUNNING ON PROPANE COULD BE REPLACED HALF AS OFTEN, NOW

THAT IS SAVINGS! Badger Cab logs over 3 million miles each year with a 20% less CO2 emissions than gasoline fueled counterparts. You can see that not only do the cost saving add up, but the environmental impact is considerably lower.

Since Melms has used autogas in his fleet for many years he said he is occasionally contacted by others looking into using propane as their fuel source. He stresses that if installed properly, propane is a very safe choice for fuel. Even citing an accident in which his driver and a passenger were rear ended at a stop light by a vehicle at 55 mph. The tank ended up in the back seat from the truck but the occupants and the tank were unharmed.

Partnering with Landmark Services Cooperative allows Badger Cab to increase options for contracting fuel. Propane contracting enables companies like Badger Cab to know the cost of their fuel for several years into the future to understand their profit margin. Landmark has many locations and professional drivers for quick and easy fuel delivery to any business. Landmark is committed to providing users with great products and buying options along with excellent services. This was especially evident when the in-house pumping station was broken down and each cab was filled by a Landmark propane delivery driver while the onsite pump was repaired. Safety education for fueling is another service that Landmark provides to customers. Providing customers with a superior choice for cost effective fueling along with excellent service, makes propane with Landmark an easy choice.



landmark.coop
800-236-3276

A NEW SCHOOL OF THOUGHT IN STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Propane Autogas is fueling a change in fleet offerings at Kobussen Buses

BENEFITS OF PROPANE AUTOGAS

1

Cost Savings

- Takes less oil (7 quarts compared to 20+ for diesel)
- No DEF or additional exhaust filters
- Maintenance friendly engines
- No electric block heaters (saves on electricity costs)
- Propane contracting helps manage fuel costs
- Tax Incentives

2

Environmental Benefits

- Clean burning alternative fuel
- Low emissions equals reduced carbon footprint
- Less used oil to dispose

3

Driver Feedback

- No cold start issues in winter (propane does not gel)
- Cabin heats up faster in winter (improved driver and student comfort)
- More throttle response for better pick-up
- Quieter running engine (more pleasant and safer ride for driver and students)
- Cleaner exhaust enables longer allowable idling times



“With over 100 propane school buses on the road in our 24 school districts, we believe propane is the fuel of the future for the school bus industry. Propane is less expensive when considering the overall cost of ownership of a school bus. Propane fits into our corporate mission of providing eco-efficient transportation. It helps us reduce our costs which we pass onto our school districts and it burns cleaner which helps our precious cargo breathe easier.”

—Dan Kobussen

