



IMPCO Technologies

Natural Gas Frequently Asked Questions

What Is Natural Gas?

Natural gas is a clear, odorless, gaseous mixture of hydrocarbons primarily composed of methane. Natural gas is the cleanest transportation fuel available today and is the United States' second largest resource.

Natural gas occupies more volume than traditional liquid fuels. To make it practical for transport applications, it must be compressed or liquefied. Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is the most common application and the process that IMPCO employs for its EPA certified North American bi-fuel injection system.

How Do We Obtain Natural Gas?

Natural gas is drawn from wells or extracted in conjunction with crude oil production. A similar alternative fuel can also be manufactured from decaying organic materials, such as landfill mass or manure, to produce biomethane, a substance also known as biogas.

How Much Natural Gas Does The United States Use?

According to the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration, in 2007:

- 84% of natural gas used was domestically produced
- 29% of the nation's natural gas was used in industrial applications
- 21% was used to heat and power homes
- 0.1% was used as an alternative fuel in transportation vehicles

What Is The Price Of Natural Gas?

Natural gas has historically cost less than other fuels. In addition, natural gas prices fluctuate less than conventional fuels and are therefore more stable than diesel and gasoline. In most countries, natural gas can save the owners more than 50 percent on fuel costs.

Is Natural Gas Safe?

Strict safety standards are in place to ensure that natural gas vehicles are as safe as or safer than conventional vehicles. Natural gas has been used in light- and heavy-duty natural gas vehicles since the mid 1960s.

What Incentives Are There For Natural Gas Vehicles?

Many federal and state incentives encourage the use of natural gas as an alternative fuel. Arizona offers substantial rebates for purchasing an alternative fuel vehicle or converting an existing vehicle to an alternative fuel vehicle.

Is There An Infrastructure For Natural Gas Today?

According to Natural Gas Vehicles for America (NGV America), there are more than 120,000 natural gas vehicles on U.S. roads today and more than 8.7 million worldwide. There are thousands of delivery trucks, port vehicles, airport vehicles, transit buses, shuttle vans and other urban-based vehicles operating around the nation solely on natural gas. For example, United Parcel Service operates more than a thousand natural gas delivery trucks that reliably deliver packages daily to their customers with greener tailpipe emissions and significant fuel savings.

Unlike any other alternative to diesel or gasoline, the nation's natural gas pipelines provide virtually every American consumer or fleet, public or private, with an opportunity to fuel because the backbone of the fueling infrastructure already exists. With natural gas, America can use domestically abundant energy and diminish its dependence upon foreign oil. Natural gas provides Americans with a clean, affordable and domestic alternative to foreign oil and a pathway to a cleaner, more sustainable transportation future.

Where Can I Find Natural Gas Stations?

According to the AFDC's Alternative Fueling Station Locator, there are 778 CNG and 38 LNG stations throughout the United States. To find locations near you, visit www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/stations/find_station.php.