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**Media Advisory**

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**Local CNG Conference to Help Businesses Save Money and Go Green**

Businesses and governments will learn about environmental benefits and saving money by converting their fleets to Compressed Natural Gas

CNG Summit will be Tulsa’s first annual comprehensive introduction to using Compressed Natural Gas, or CNG, as a transportation fuel. Sponsored by Tulsa Gas Technologies and hosted by Tulsa Area Clean Cities and INCOG, the goal of CNG Summit is to educate fleet managers and small to mid-sized business owners about the benefits of using CNG in fleet operations.

Oklahoma is the third largest producer of natural gas in the nation, so converting to CNG is good for our state economy. Approximately ninety percent of the natural gas used in the US is produced domestically, so CNG helps reduce our dependence on imported oil, and here in Oklahoma it retails for $1.60 or less, saving consumers money at the pump.

“If those facts are motivating to an individual, you can imagine the interest it generates among business owners and fleet managers who are seeing ballooning fuel budgets eat up more and more of their bottom lines.” said Meredith Webber, Manager of INCOG’s Office of Energy Management and Clean Cities Coordinator, who is hosting this event. Webber went on to explain that while CNG is getting more and more attention, it can be intimidating to make the jump to CNG because it carries a large initial investment, and there is much to learn and understand before someone is comfortable with converting. CNG Summit is designed to give fleet managers and business owners the information they need to decide if CNG would work for their business. Event highlights include:

· **Keynote Address from Governor** **Mary** **Fallin:**  Governor Fallin will discuss Oklahoma’s commitment to using CNG, and the ways in which it drives our economy.

**· The Compelling Case for CNG**: An introduction to CNG, Stephe Yborra from Clean Vehicle Education Foundation, will present the economic factors causing many fleets to convert to CNG, an overview of the current CNG market, and developments on the horizon.

· **Fleet Success Stories**: Hear local business owners and fleet managers talk about their experiences with CNG.

· **CNG Funding Opportunities**: Meredith Webber, Tulsa Area Clean Cities Coordinator will discuss avalible tax incentives, utility rebates, grants, and low interest loan programs available to help fund CNG projects.

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· **Sponsor information booths and the CNG vehicle exhibit:** This exhibit will feature a variety of CNG powered vehicles from a motorcycle to a refuse truck, and everything in between.

·  **Breakout Sessions:** Roundtable breakout sessions will discuss the different options for Light Duty and Medium Duty/Vocational Vehicles.

·  **Fueling Options for CNG Fleets:** A roundtable will discuss different types of stations to fit any budget.

CNG Summit will take place September 19th at the OU Schusterman Center in Tulsa. The cost is $70 per person, or $50 for government agencies. Visit [www.TulsaCleanCities.com](http://www.TulsaCleanCities.com) to learn more and to register for this event.

The presenting sponsor for CNG Summit is Tulsa Gas Technologie. “Blue Diamond” sponsors for this event are Apache Corporation, ClearSkyCNG, Crane Carrier Company, Don Carlton Honda, Oklahoma Department of Commerce, Pipeliners Local 798, Tulsa Metro Chamber, and Tulsa Technology Center; “Blue Flame” sponsors are Chrysler, Clean Vehicle Education Foundation, Small Arrow Engineering, Spectrum LNG, Westport, Verdek, “Sapphire” sponsors are Arrow Engine Company, BAF Technologies, Bob Hurley Ford, ONEOK, Simpkins Energy, and WorldCNG Conversion Services. Limited sponsorship opportunities are still avalible; please visit [www.TulsaCleanCities.com](http://www.TulsaCleanCities.com)/CNGsummit for sponsorship information.

About Tulsa Area Clean Cities:

Tulsa Area Clean Cities facilitates partnerships designed to develop regional economic opportunities to reduce the use of imported oil, promote use of alternative fuels, and improve air quality. We promote energy security by supporting local decisions and facilitating local partnerships to reduce dependence on imported oil.

Tulsa Area Clean Cities Coalition is a voluntary organization of government agencies, private corporations, nonprofits, and individuals interested in building on Oklahoma’s rich history of oil production by harnessing the power of other abundant natural resources in our great state; natural gas, vast crop land, wind, and sun to create a new kind of energy for a new tomorrow.

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy’s Vehicle Technologies Program and housed locally at INCOG, the Tulsa Area Clean Cities Coalition, and more than 80 others like it across the country, work together to increase the economic and environmental security of the United States.

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