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1 Introduction

1.1 What is the LNG BLUE CORRIDORS Project?

The Blue Corridors project's aim is to establish LNG as a real alternative for medium- and long-distance transport—first as a complementary fuel and later as an adequate substitute for diesel.

Up to now the common use of gas as fuel has been for heavy vehicles running on natural gas (NG) only for municipal use, such as urban buses and garbage collection trucks. In both types of application, engine performance and autonomy are good with present technologies, as they are well adapted to this alternative cleaner fuel.

However analysing the consumption data, the equivalence in autonomy of 1 litre of diesel oil is 5 litres of CNG (Compressed Natural Gas), compressed to 200 bar. Five times more volume of fuel prevents the use of CNG in heavy road transport, because its volume and weight would be too great for a long-distance truck.

This opens the way for LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas), which is the way natural gas is transported by ship to any point of the globe. NG liquefies at 162° C below zero, and the cost in energy is only 5% of the original gas.

This state of NG gives LNG the advantage of very high energy content. Only 1,8 litres of LNG is needed to meet the equivalent autonomy of using 1 litre of diesel oil.

A 40-ton road tractor in Europe needs a tank of 400 to 500 litres for a 1.000 km trip; its equivalent volume with liquid gas would be 700 to 900 litres of LNG, a tank dimension that could easily be fitted to the side of the truck chassis. LNG therefore opens the way to the use of NG for medium- and long-distance road transport.

LNG has huge potential for contributing to achieving Europe's policy objectives, such as the Commission's targets for greenhouse gas reduction, air quality targets, while at the same time reducing dependency on crude oil and guaranteeing supply security. Natural gas heavy-duty vehicles already comply with Euro V emission standards and have enormous potential to reach future Euro VI emission standards without complex exhaust gas after-treatment technologies, which have increased procurement and maintenance costs.

To meet the objectives, a series of LNG refuelling points have been defined along the four corridors covering the Atlantic area (green line), the Mediterranean region (red line) and connecting Europe's South with the North (blue line) and its West and East (yellow line) accordingly. In order to implement a sustainable transport network for Europe, the project has set the goal to build approximately 14 new LNG stations, both permanent and mobile, on critical locations along the Blue Corridors whilst building up a fleet of approximately 100 Heavy-Duty Vehicles powered by LNG. (HDVs). These vehicles will be provided by the primary manufacturers of LNG-powered HDVs including Volvo, Iveco, Daimler/Hardstaff, and Renault Trucks.

This European project is financed by the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7), with the amount of 7.96 M€ (total investments amounting to 14.33 M€), involving 27 partners from 11 countries.

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This document corresponds to the third deliverable within work package 8. It is a description document about the contact list used in the project. It will be available in internet through the next link: <http://www.lngbluecorridors.eu/> which can be consulted by any user. It has public access.

2 Description of the project database

2.1 Public and private contacts list

During the creation process of the project contact database, different aspects were taken into account, always bearing in mind the public nature of this document.

NGVA Europe is the European Association of Natural Gas Vehicles, and has a distribution list of more than 7,000 specialized contacts. Over the years NGVA Europe has been collecting all these contacts from European projects, natural gas meetings, political conferences, technical sessions related not just to the natural gas field, but also to the automotive sector in general. Since the NGVA Europe distribution list is for private use, it was decided to create a parallel database including all the contacts provided by the project partners. This dissemination archive can be used by all the partners within the project, and it will be implemented during the project's life.

This new list or "LNG BC project dissemination database" will be added to the current NGVA Europe dissemination database, in order to guarantee the widest dissemination possible for the project.

The "LNG BC project dissemination database" has been created with the collaboration of all the partners involved, and it will be improved on a daily basis, by adding every new contact made at the project dissemination meetings, events, interested contacts, etc. The first version accounts with more than 1,000. This list will be added to the NGVA Europe dissemination list, so the first issue of the Project Newsletter will reach more than 1,000 contacts.

The NGVA Europe distribution list is private, and it has been agreed with the project officer that this list will not be given within the project.

The main purpose of the database is to reach as many people as possible. Project newsletters, information related with the project and project events, among other material, will be sent to the full contact distribution list, which acknowledges more than 1,000 contacts.

2.2 Type of contacts

The nature of the contacts included in both lists is described below:

- **Natural gas field**

These contacts are directly linked to the LNG Blue Corridors project in terms of natural gas providers. This section includes gas companies, natural gas grid owners & operators, distributors, institutes related with the natural gas quality, national associations and technical centers, etc... It also includes all the companies related with the use of the natural gas as a fuel (components, refuelling stations, etc.)

- **Political field**

NGVA Europe acts on behalf of its more than 155 members informing the European Commission and Parliament about the importance of including the benefits of natural gas

used as fuel and, especially, the huge possibilities of LNG for heavy transport in the political agenda. Due to this fact, the number of European Commission members & officers, Members of the European Parliament, stakeholders, national authorities, etc. represents a huge percentage of the NGVA Europe distribution list. This will guarantee an effective impact of the project outcomes.

Especially interesting is to act at national level in order to attract the local governments to support the use and to promote the LNG infrastructure in parallel with the actions carried out within the LNG Blue Corridor Project.

- **Automotive field**

Three of the most important OEMs acting in this field are directly participating in the project (Volvo, Iveco, Renault). The distribution of the performance of the LNG vehicles during the project's life will encourage the rest of the vehicles manufacturers to keep their efforts on improve the technology of the LNG vehicles. NGVA Europe has a close relationship with the most important OEMs, and the directors of product engineering, product manager powertrain, product planning and marketing directors from mostly of the OEMs are included in the distribution list. The results are closely related to the future of liquefied natural gas as fuel for heavy-duty vehicles. Up to now, LNG has been the only alternative fuel to diesel for long distance transport. The good knowledge of the project results is an essential tool to creating confidence in this new alternative fuel for long distance.

- **Final users & fleet owners**

Once the LNG stations are ready and the vehicles available, the essential part is to convince the final user about the benefits of using this fuel. This section will be one of the most important sectors receiving the project news, so the information about the stations opening and also the results on available vehicles and harmonization of standards in the European countries will be directly affecting the final user, who will receive this information directly. The most important fleet owners, goods transport and delivery companies will be included in this list.

- **General public & media**

As described previously, the results of this project affect the general idea about the alternative fuel to diesel for long distance transport. For short distance there are currently many alternatives, which are quite well-known by the public general. Due to this fact, the importance of explaining the benefits of this fuel, also as a real alternative to diesel for long distance transport will guarantee the correct understanding by the general public. Many of the contacts are journalists, consultants, people related to other activities that may be interested in knowing more about the sector when exploring new business possibilities, etc., so, every interested person and journalist will be added to the distribution list.

2.3 Goals and expected results

The compilation of this wide contact list aims to disseminate the project results to the industry, both automotive and natural gas, as well as to governments, stakeholders, investors and suppliers in the closest way. They will receive first-hand information about the LNG Blue Corridors project and from the partners involved.

Several contacts, more than 1000 just at the beginning of the project, will get the public material of the project such as the newsletter, documents about technology of the LNG trucks and the refuelling stations, etc. providing a lot of benefits such as the huge visibility of the project as well as important promotion of this innovative technology. The intention is to attract the readers enabling them to understand this technology better. The main result that should be achieved is to guarantee a good number of readers for the project public documents as well as keep the attention of many knowers of this technology.

As mentioned above, the results of the LNG Blue Corridor project will become a reality if the interested public can get a good knowledge of the activities related to the project, in parallel with the growth that this industry is undergoing worldwide.