

PRESS RELEASE

HOYER Group focuses on alternative drives

Logistics specialist expands truck fleet with LNG and CNG engines, and uses electric stacker fleets

Hamburg, 26 August 2021

CO₂ footprint reduction is a declared sustainability target of the HOYER Group. As well as modernising its fleet, the international logistics specialist also increasingly focuses on new drive systems with energy sources such as Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), together with electric stacker truck fleets.

HOYER is progressively expanding its fleet with LNG tractor units and CNG trucks. The international logistics specialist currently has a total of 25 gas-powered trucks in use: twelve LNG and 13 CNG trucks – and the latest unit will be added in August. The reason for expanding its fleet is the considerable interest by HOYER, and also of its industrial customers, in sustainable operations. A major aim of the HOYER Group is the greatest possible CO₂ footprint reduction in all logistics processes.

Natural-gas-fuelled trucks are currently used to transport gas and petroleum products. The first unit was obtained in 2018, and other models have followed since then. Anna Krüger, Head of Business Development Gas of the HOYER Group, explains “We want to expand this fleet even further. Our customers are also very interested in making progress together on the topic of sustainability.” And Krüger adds “Reducing the CO₂ footprint concerns us all, which is why we also attempt to offer CNG, LNG or biofuel as alternatives wherever these are possible, sensible and available.”

Compared to diesel, engines powered by liquefied natural gas cause about 10 to 20 per cent less CO₂ emissions, and organic LNG reduces emissions by as much as 90 per cent. However, the service station network for alternative energies, which has still not expanded to full coverage, currently impedes the use of these trucks, although a further expansion of the organic LNG network is also expected in the near future. Steady improvement in the service station infrastructure, together with the toll exemption still applying in Germany, strengthen the trend towards fleet enlargement in this direction – in spite of significantly higher procurement and maintenance costs compared to diesel counterparts.

Whereas LNG is used for high-power tractor units, the majority of the CNG trucks in HOYER are transporters in the class up to 7.5 tonnes. CNG is also a real option for short distances in heavy goods transport: A CNG tractor unit will be used for petroleum products logistics for short journeys in the Great Hamburg region from mid-August onwards.

ABOUT THE HOYER GROUP

HOYER, a traditional, independent family-run company since 1946, is one of the leading bulk logistics service providers worldwide, and as a specialist it possesses comprehensive know-how in the supply of complex services, and a special proximity to customers. Comprehensive solutions are developed and implemented in European and worldwide bulk logistics, especially for the chemicals, foodstuffs, gas and mineral oil sectors. Around 6,200 staff in more than 115 countries support customers to be even more successful with well thought-out logistics solutions in their respective markets. HOYER has at its disposal about 2,100 trucks, 2,500 road tankers, 50,200 IBCs, 40,900 tank containers and numerous logistics installations with depots, cleaning plants and workshops.

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As well as gas-fuelled engines, the HOYER Group also focuses on electrically-powered engines. Most of the logistics specialist's fleet of electric stackers are fitted with lithium ion technology (Li-ION), and are used especially for on-site logistics. Li-ION technology eliminates costly, time-consuming battery changes, since these batteries can be given intermediate recharges even during short work breaks. Built-in Li-ION batteries have an average lifetime of ten years.

HOYER is also watching developments in the use of hydrogen as an energy carrier. As Procurement Manager Johan Witteveen explains, "We expect that hydrogen-fuelled trucks will also play a part in future, since they operate without any emissions. What is not yet available, however, is their dangerous goods approval, which is essential for HOYER." The HOYER Group has a firm eye on the future, and is already in discussions with relevant truck manufacturers today.

The HOYER Group, an international logistics specialist with over 40 years of experience in handling and transporting hydrogen, is ideally equipped for further developments. As a supplier of comprehensive logistics solutions, it is regarded in the sector as an expert in handling this challenging product, and is the leader in hydrogen transport. This completes the circle of sustainability efforts and specialist expertise in relation to gas as an energy carrier.

Photographic material can be found [here](#).