

Promoting the Uptake of Gaseous Vehicle Fuels, Biogas and Natural Gas, in Europe

GasHighWay

Baltic coordinator: Ahto Oja, Mõnus Minek OÜ



Picture: Martti Hänninen, M-Art Ltd.

Project summary



- EU has set the target of increasing the share of biofuels and alternative fuels, including natural gas, in traffic to 10 and 20 %, respectively, by 2020.
- The GasHighWay project addresses this challenge by promoting the uptake of gaseous vehicle fuels, namely upgraded biogas (biomethane) and compressed natural gas (CNG), as well as the production and upgrading of biogas for vehicle fuel. The long-term objective of the project is to promote the realisation of a network of filling stations for biomethane and natural gas reaching from the northernmost tip of Europe, Finland and Sweden, to the south, Italy, in other words: the **GasHighWay**.
- The main target groups of the project are operators of vehicle fleets, municipal and regional authorities, and existing and potential biogas producers.
- As result of the project activities, the number of gas vehicles, gas filling stations and investment plans to initiate biogas production and/or upgrading will increase significantly in the main target countries, and the general acceptance and image of the gaseous vehicle fuels will improve.



Photos: Gasum Oy, Eeli Mykkänen / Jyväskylä Innovation Oy

Background



- EU has set the target of increasing the share of biofuels and so-called alternative fuels, including natural gas, in traffic to 10 and 20 %, respectively, by 2020.
- Worldwide 10 million (1,1 million in Europe) gas driven vehicles are operating mainly on CNG, whereas the use of biomethane as vehicle fuel is still relatively new in many countries.
- Among the countries participating in the project, Italy, Germany and Sweden are most advanced in terms of number of gas vehicles and gas filling stations.
- In Finland, Latvia, Czech Republic and Austria the use of these fuels is in the beginning stage.
- In Estonia, Lithuania and Poland these markets are virtually non-existent today.
- For biomethane and CNG as a transport fuel there are unfavourable and/or inadequate policies, standards and regulation in place in most European countries.



Photo: Metener Ltd.

Objectives and main steps



The GasHighWay activities include

- promoting the implementation and expansion of distribution systems for gaseous vehicle fuels
- removing barriers to investment in the fuel supply infrastructure by e.g. mapping the optimal locations for the filling stations
- providing knowledge transfer and technical support for
 - potential investors in gas refuelling infrastructure
 - organisations interested in the uptake of gas vehicle fleets
 - potential and existing biogas producers
- communicating to key decision-makers and local authorities the main regulatory and market barriers hindering the development of the gas refuelling and biogas production/upgrading infrastructure
- creating a roadmap for the European GasHighWay
- raising the awareness on the use of biomethane and CNG as vehicle fuel.

Expected results



As result of the GasHighWay project

- the number of gas vehicles, gas filling stations and investment plans to initiate biogas production and/or upgrading will increase significantly in the main target countries, and
- the general acceptance and image of the gaseous vehicle fuels will improve.

The long-term strategic output of this project will be the establishment of a comprehensive network of filling stations for biomethane and CNG covering Europe from north to south (from Finland and Sweden to Italy), as well as the removal of the unfavourable and/or inadequate policies, standards and regulations regarding these fuels.



Photos: Pauliina Uusi-Penttilä, Annimari Lehtomäki

Partners and contact



Website: www.gashighway.net

Co-ordinator: Jyväskylä Innovation Ltd, Finland

Partners:

- Technology Centre Hermia Ltd., Finland
- Swedish Gas Centre AB, Sweden
- Mõnus Minek SEES LLC , Estonia
- Regional Development Agency S.A., Bielsko-Biała, Poland
- Czech Biogas Association, Czech Republic
- German Society for Sustainable Biogas and Bioenergy Utilization, Germany
- Graz Energy Agency Ltd., Austria
- Steirische Gas-Wärme GmbH, Austria
- Environment Park S.P.A., Italy
- ETA Florence - Renewable Energies, Italy
- Institute for Fuels and Renewable Energy, Poland
- Natural Gas Vehicle Association Europe, Spain

Observers:

- North Vidzeme Waste Management Organisation Ltd., Latvia
- Lithuanian University of Agriculture, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering / Department of Agroenergetics, Lithuania
- Lithuanian Institute of Agriculture, Lithuania

For more information, please contact: Ahto Oja, ahto.oja@monusminek.ee, 372 5082990

Ms. Tytti Laitinen, Jyväskylä Innovation Ltd, tytti.laitinen@jklinnovation.fi, www.jklinnovation.fi