

Visy fork hoists to go 100 percent CNG

Visy began manufacturing corrugated cardboard boxes in Melbourne, Australia, in 1948 and has grown to become the largest privately-owned packaging, paper and recycling company in the world. In New Zealand the company has packaging and recycling plants in Auckland as well as a beverage cartons and PET factory in Christchurch.

The Visy Board corrugated box factory in Wiri, Auckland, covers 25,000 square metres (two-and-a-half hectares). Big in anyone's terms, the factory usually runs up to 24 hours a day making the corrugated packaging cardboard we're all familiar with. It's a manufacturing process employing 75 or so people at any one time, all working under one roof, serviced by 17 busy fork hoists.

No noxious fumes

Working so many fork hoists in an enclosed environment rules out the noxious fumes and unbearably horrible smells associated with conventional petrol or diesel engines. The answer for Visy, according to Maintenance Supervisor Derick Riley, is CNG.

With CNG there are no noxious fumes to cause a problem in the factory. This makes CNG the obvious choice when it comes to replacing the fleet of fork hoists.

"12 of our fork hoists are CNG fuelled now," says Derick, "and our new Komatsu fleet, which we'll be ordering soon, will be 100% CNG."

Of the 17 fork hoists in constant use Visy has been running the other five on LPG, but two things have given the company the confidence to order an entire new fleet with CNG conversions done by the supplier before delivery. Firstly, a new on-site CNG compressor has proven its efficiency and reliability and, secondly, experience has proven that CNG costs the company about 30% less than LPG.

"CNG makes real sense for us. It's efficient, reliable and economic, and if it were more readily available I'm sure many more businesses would get the benefits we're getting," says Derick Riley, Maintenance Supervisor for Visy.



Economic benefits

"The economics are obvious," says Derick, "especially when we have our own piped supply of natural gas to serve our steam boiler and energy needs."

All that is required to run CNG vehicles is the site installation of a compressor plant which in the Visy case has a footprint of just 24 square metres. A fork hoist with a full tank will work constantly for three or four hours and the drivers are trained to refill their own tanks in a simple process taking just a couple of minutes.

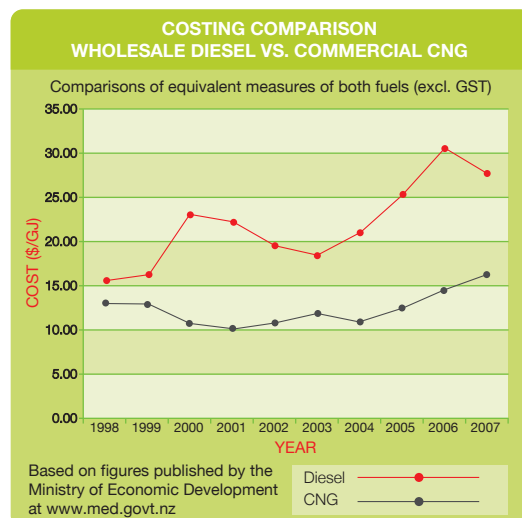
CNG AT A GLANCE

CNG fork hoists benefit your business by:

- Improving indoor air quality through lower emissions
- Reducing annual fuel costs
- Offering price certainty through supply contracts
- Offering supply certainty through being domestically sourced
- Eliminating odours and increasing employee safety
- Lowering maintenance requirements and reducing engine wear and tear
- Being reliable and convenient to refuel

Economic benefits

The comparison in fuel costs between diesel and CNG show significant cost benefits in using CNG.



For information about how CNG can work for your business, phone: **09 978 4536**