

Girteka Logistics strives to improve efficiency with Iveco LNG trucks

Recent tests have shown that a truck powered by liquefied natural gas (LNG) can reach the same distance by 20% cheaper than a diesel vehicle.

The discovery was made by transport and logistics company Girteka Logistics with a large transport fleet of its own, after it has carried out test runs with Iveco Stralis 460 NP LNG gas-powered trucks. The Iveco Stralis 460 NP truck was tested from November to December 2018 and demonstrated good results. Two more trucks of the same brand were submitted for testing in the same company this year.

Truck's driving distance was checked

"We started our first tests with LNG trucks last year. Back then we already noticed that the distance of 100 kilometers covered by an LNG-powered truck cost about 20 percent less. We checked not only the fuel consumption, but also the distance that a fully tanked truck can cover. The results showed that our drivers managed to drive 1500 km with a full fuel tank," Chief Transport Officer at Girteka Logistics Donatas Načajus said.

This indicator is especially relevant for Lithuania, because the LNG station network has not been developed in our country so far: we have no gas stations yet. However, 98% of our company's clients are outside Lithuania. For these reasons, the truck was tested abroad.

"The truck was tested in the Benelux countries and in France, because those countries have the best-developed LNG gas station network," said Donatas Načajus.

1600 kilometers non-stop

Ernestas Jakubonis, Head of Iveco's Representative Office in the Baltic Area and Finland, acknowledged that the lack of gas stations in question poses difficulties for the development of gas transport in Lithuania and slows down its development.

"We talk about gas transportation – it is different and not stereotypical. Unfortunately, it is still a novelty in Lithuania. Only a limited number of companies initiate a different approach towards environment protection and aim to be independent from standard oil products.

Alternative transport is thought to cause too many problems, but our long-standing experience shows it's only advantageous. Our gas transport uses up to 15 percent less gas, and with a full tank you can drive up to 1,6 thousand kilometers, which is maximally possible with a diesel vehicle, but most importantly, it is environment-friendly. We have noticeably reduced CO2 emissions by using Bio LNG (up to 85%), not to mention the reduction of particulates and nitrogen oxide (NOx) (up to 95%) – these key indicators demonstrate the reduction of pollution and environmental impact," Ernestas Jakubonis explained.

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