



Best Operational and Maintenance Practices for City Bus Fleets to Maximize Fuel Economy

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Energy Efficient Cities Initiative Helping Cities Meet Their Energy Challenges of the New Century

The transport sector plays an increasingly significant role in global energy requirements, accounting for 23 percent of all world energy consumption. A single energy source, petroleum, still accounts for the vast majority 95 percent of the energy used by the sector (IPCC 2007). As a result, the oil price volatility of recent years has created considerable pressures on transport systems, particularly in the developing world.

This pressure, plus the explosion of urbanization and private vehicle ownership, has created strong incentives for city officials in developing countries to improve the efficiency and enhance the attractiveness of public transportation.

Energy consumption for transport per individual is four times higher in cities such as Houston or Chicago, where the majority of trips are made by private car, compared to cities such as Warsaw or Hong Kong, where public transport, walking and cycling are predominant.² In most large cities in developing countries, buses continue to be the public transport option of choice, carrying a large share of urban travelers, often at relatively low cost.