Propane Technology Review 2011 Update

Since the publication of the award-winning *Propane Technology Review 2010*, PERC has been hard at work driving innovation through a continued commitment to building partnerships and supporting smart ideas that will grow the industry.

Trilogy Series Grain Dryer

Partner: Mathews Co.

New low-profile grain dryer that combines the benefits of propane with vacuum cooling technology for increased energy efficiency.

What's New

- Made its debut at the 2011 National Farm Machinery Show.
- Can handle 850 bushels per hour and operate for 500 hours a year.
- A single unit could consume 55,000 gallons of propane a year.

Agriculture

EcoGen Premium Genset

Partner: Generac

6-kilowatt premium generator designed specifically for use in renewable hybrid systems.

What's New

- Now available for purchase.
- Nearly 200 units have been sold since product launch in October 2010 and a 5-unit field demonstration is under way.

Portable Generators

Partner: Generac

Line of portable generators for recreational, multipurpose, and storm response uses.

What's New

- Line will include a range of sizes: 1,600 watts, 3,250 watts, and 5,000 watts.
- 3,250-watt unit will be available for purchase in spring 2011.

Residential and Commercial

Type A Propane School Bus

Partners: Collins Bus, CleanFuel USA

The first Type A school bus to operate with a liquid propane injection system.

What's New

- Now available for purchase through Collins Bus distributors.
- Now EPA- and CARB-certified.

Autogas

Stationary Agriculture Engines

Partner: Origin Engines

8.0- and 10.3-liter stationary engines for medium- and heavy-duty agricultural applications.

What's New

- Builds on the success of nearly 1,000 propane stationary engines sold for applications like irrigation that were developed with PERC support.
- Both engines undergoing CARB and EPA emissions certification.
- 10.3-liter engine is more powerful than any previously released stationary propane engine.

Freewatt Plus Micro-CHP

Partner: ECR International

Micro-CHP system that provides primary heat and meets a portion of home and small businesses owners' annual electricity needs.

What's New

- Now available for purchase in both warm-air and hydronic versions.
- A 10-unit field demonstration is under way.

GM 8.0-liter Propane Engine

Partners: General Motors, Freightliner Custom Chassis Corp., Thomas Built Buses, Powertrain Integration, CleanFuel USA, Capacity of Texas

8.0-liter engine for a range of medium- and heavy-duty applications, including bobtail trucks, terminal trucks, school buses, and agricultural applications.

What's New

- The engine is being developed and certified for use in on-highway applications.
- Terminal trucks are being engineered to use the engine when it is released.
- All applications will be CARB or EPA certified.

New Initiatives

In the past year, PERC has established three initiatives that encourage the use of propane-fueled products and the development of new ideas that rely on propane. The sustained focus on innovation and implementation is designed to increase propane's visibility as a fuel of choice now and in the future.

Marketer Technology Training

PERC's Marketer Technology Training (MTT) program offers marketers the chance to learn about new strategies to grow gallons and increase demand year-round. Featuring topics such as generators, propane autogas for on-road fleets, irrigation engines, and filling the home with propane-fueled appliances, these one-day seminars use a combination of in-classroom learning and hands-on demonstration to help marketers take full advantage of the benefits and business potential of propane applications that go beyond residential heating.

To learn about new ways to grow your business, sign up for a training session in your area at www.propanecouncil.org/MTT.

Propane Training Academy

The Propane Training Academy provides architects and construction professionals with free online training courses as well as articles, product catalogs, and videos on the application and installation of propane and propane products. Variously approved by the National Association of Home Builders, the American Institute of Architects, the National Association of the Remodeling Industry, and the U.S. Green Building Council, courses on tankless water heaters, community propane tank systems, outdoor applications, and other products encourage the use of propane in new home starts and remodeling projects.

To view available courses and resources, visit www.propanetrainingacademy.com.

The Propane Challenge

To continue providing the industry with innovative ways to sell propane to customers, PERC established the Propane Challenge. This initiative is designed to motivate talented researchers and manufacturers to envision technology-based solutions to the challenges facing the propane industry. The program will reach out directly to potential research partners in academia and industry to expand the community of people thinking about new ways to use propane, encourage them to submit their ideas, and reward winning ideas with an Exceptional Energy award and potential research grant funding.

To submit an idea or learn more about the Propane Challenge, visit www.propanechallenge.com.

PROPANE education & research COUNCIL

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