

BEST PRACTICES TRAINING PROGRAMS

Facility modifications to improve safety in alternative fuel garages require considerable effort, and this effort will be wasted if the personnel who work in the facility are not generally aware of their role in safety. Physical modifications to the maintenance facility will help mitigate any potential hazard from adding CNG and LNG vehicles to facility operations, but proper training of personnel is critical to maintaining a safe work environment.

Employees, contractors, and visitors to the facility each need specific guidance on how to respond to emergencies. For new employees, gas properties, risk mitigation basics, and specific aspects of any installed alarm systems should be covered. For permanent employees, consider holding ongoing training as often as gas detection systems are calibrated – this is typically every six months. This training should serve as a refresher, and doesn't need to include every aspect.



Consider having contractors and visitors go through an abbreviated training as part of an orientation program or a welcome presentation. This should at minimum cover evacuation procedures and guide them against doing anything that actively works against safety procedures. Consider teaming visitors with a trusted employee that can guide them in case of emergency.

The training program may include any of the topics below:

- The physical properties of compressed or liquefied natural gas, propane, or hydrogen
- Hazards associated with compressed or liquefied natural gas, propane, or hydrogen
- Review gas detection alarm scenarios and what actions should be taken in each case
- Procedure if natural gas odorant is smelled and the alarm system hasn't activated
- Why it is important to follow safety procedures and not circumvent safety equipment
- Building evacuation drills or training in conjunction with alarm scenario.
- First responder interaction training
- Procedures for after an emergency situation
- Training for maintenance of gas detection system equipment
- General OEM guidelines for the onboard fuel storage system and engine fueling components for alternative fuel vehicles

You may also consider:

- CNG cylinder inspection certification of at least one maintenance technician
- ASE certification of CNG vehicle technicians (F1 Test)
- OEM-provided or OEM-certified instruction for maintenance procedures for the onboard fuel storage system and engine fueling components for alternative fuel vehicles

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