



NGC CNG Company Limited

Media Release

Diesel Maxis make way for CNG Maxis

September 19th - A major step towards getting maxi taxi drivers to switch to CNG took place on Monday September 12th, with the disposal of 2 diesel powered maxi taxis. In 2015, state owned company, NGC CNG signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Association of Maxi Taxis of Trinidad and Tobago (AMTTT) to offer a grant to maxi taxi owners to dispose of their diesel vehicles and switch to CNG.

To access the grant (of \$45,000 for a small maxi and \$75,000 for a large maxi), owners have to destroy their old diesel powered maxi taxis and procure new Original Equipment Manufactured (OEM) CNG maxi taxis. The first 2 owners to complete the switch over from Diesel to CNG are Messers Lucien Hernandez-Maxwell and Godfrey Flemming.

Both vehicles which were destroyed and disposed, small maxi taxis, were in excess of 20 years old. On Monday 12th, the vehicles were taken to a scrap yard and crushed with an excavator. The mangled vehicles was then torn apart and fed into a massive shredder which separated the pieces into metal and other scrap.

Following the disposal of the 2 vehicles, both owners received a certificate of destruction, which they took to the Licensing office to register their new CNG vehicle.

Eon Hewitt, AMTTT President along with officials of NGC CNG and the owners witnessed the disposal of the vehicles, which took approximately 10 minutes each. Afterwards Hewitt remarked, "I feel good, this means 2 new CNG Maxis will be replacing those."

The new CNG vehicles are imported from China from the Jiangsu Joylong Automobile Company. These CNG Joylong vehicles are 18 seaters which is new to the T&T market which has traditionally been served by 15 seaters and 25 seaters.

The OEM CNG Maxis will be launched officially on Wednesday 21st September at the Red and Green band Maxi taxi hub, City Gate Port of Spain. They will represent the first 2 OEM CNG Maxi Taxis in Trinidad and Tobago to be operated commercially, following the success of the Honda City CNG passenger car and PTSC's CNG buses.

Maxi taxi owners have embraced the switch to CNG, since it represents a 50% savings on their fuel cost (Diesel \$1.98/litre, CNG \$1.00/litre equivalent). CNG also burns cleaner, thus reducing the intervals for vehicle maintenance.

NGC CNG was incorporated in 2013 to accelerate the use of CNG as a major transportation fuel, by outfitting new supply points with compression, storage and dispensing equipment and increasing the demand for CNG in key market segments.

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