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## It's the Law

*President Obama Signs American Recovery and Reinvestment Act With Funding & Numerous Incentives for Clean, Efficient Vehicles*

President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act into law last week, looking to stimulate the broader economy and including unprecedented funding and incentives for advanced technology vehicles and the fuels that drive them.

NGV America called the new law a "once in a lifetime opportunity" for natural gas vehicles.

"The stimulus bill includes critical support for battery manufacturing, recharging infrastructure, and electric drive vehicle deployments," said Electric Drive Transportation Association president Brian Wynne.



Vehicles like this Azure-drive, Ford E450 hybrid from California's Carmenita Truck Center should be an easier sell – [Page 5](#)

## Would-Be Recipients Urged to Act

The Diesel Technology Forum celebrated \$300 million for heavy duty vehicle retrofits: "a bold new investment in clean diesel technology that will be good for our economy and our environment," said DTF executive director Allen Schaeffer. "Now the challenge will be to help

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## Tesla for 1,000 Battery Smart Car Packs

Tesla CEO Elon Musk says his firm enjoys a grand backlog for its Roadster, 'something few automakers can claim.' He lets drop almost casually that Tesla has a contract with Daimler to supply battery packs and chargers for 1,000 electric Smart cars. [Page 6](#)

## \$6 Million for NGVs from BP

Settlement following fatal refinery fire in 2005 includes \$6 million for natural gas vehicles in Texas City, Texas, say the U.S. EPA and Justice Department.

According to the [federal announcement](#), "BP will convert approximately 100 diesel municipal vehicles, including several dozen school buses, to operate on compressed or liquefied natural gas and will construct four refueling stations for the converted vehicles."



## Proterra: Battery Dominant

The engine is optional as Colorado's Proterra employs UQM motors and controls and Altairnano lithium ion batteries for a 35-foot transit bus that's *fast-charge capable* to handle a regular bus duty cycle. [Pages 3-4](#)

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## Work Truck Chicago++

Electric Vehicles International and Baker Equipment (with a CNG-battery ladder van) are just two of the companies showing new alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles at the sold-out NTEA Work Truck Show in Chicago next week.

The gathering includes a Green Truck Summit with Boone Pickens



*EVI's Route 750*

as keynote speaker. Many other meetings look too good to miss too.

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## Natural Gas Vehicles

### Carmenita-altfueltrucks.com

*Gaseous Fuels and Now an Azure Hybrid, Carmenita Truck Center Handles Deliveries*  
Southern California's Carmenita Truck Center is handling deliveries of alternative fuel and now hybrid electric vehicles promoted by salesman J.B. Blakely via the altfueltrucks.com website.

Recent jobs include 11 Sterling L8500 trucks for Caltrans fitted with ISL G engines from Cummins



Carmenita delivers natural gas trucks like this CNG Autocar with Altec aerial rig and fuel system by AFV Fab

Westport and 21x86-inch Type IV all-composite Lincoln cylinders, holding the equivalent of 75 diesel gallons, mounted back-of-the-cab by AFV-Fab. They are being fitted as dump and stake trucks, and for such tasks as drilling, Blakely says.

Carmenita is also supplying eight Autocar trucks to the City of Riverside (utilities), including aerial boom trucks and diggers. They are also being fitted with ISL G engines.

Carmenita/altfueltrucks.com will use its new Ford E-450 with an hybrid electric drive from Azure Dynamics as a demonstration vehicle, Blakely says.

"We are a one-stop-shop," he told *F&F*.

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### Mercedes Invites B-Class Support



"Would you buy a natural gas-powered vehicle?" Daimler-Mercedes is asking, taking a poll via the *Motor Trend* magazine website (registration required).

The debate was spurred as the German OEM displayed a bi-fuel B-Class car at the Washington Auto Show and confirmed that it's watching the U.S. market (*F&F*, Feb. 9).

Mercedes is said to be using the *Motor Trend* poll data as it considers importing the vehicle.

### More Biomethane for Sainsbury's

Britain's Sainsbury's Supermarkets, which deployed a bio-methane-fueled Mercedes-Benz Axor truck this past summer (*F&F*, September 1) is adding five more, likewise powered by engines fitted with Clean Air Power's Genesis Dual Fuel conversion hardware. "We are delighted to receive this order," Clean Air Power CEO John Pettitt said in a release.

CAP recently got Volvo's blessing to publicize tests of dual-fuel on a 12.8-liter D13 engine (*F&F*, January 26).

Fuel for the Sainsbury's trials has been supplied by Gasrec, which makes biomethane from landfill gas.  
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## Associate High Pressure Technologies for CNG Tanks in India

Mumbai-based Associate Group is investing some \$40 million to establish Associate High Pressure Technologies as a manufacturer of Type I CNG cylinders, able to produce 480,000 units per year in the Kandla Special Economic Zone in northwest India.

The Associate plant, set to open next month, is India's largest for compressed natural gas cylinders.



Tanks will be available in five sizes ranging from 20 to 200 liters in volume. Target markets for the cylinders include Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Africa, and ex-Soviet CIS states. Associate's factory and tanks will be ISO11439- and NZS5454-certified.

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