



# NC CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY CENTER

## Economic Development & Clean Transportation

### FREIGHTLINER (DAIMLER NORTH AMERICA) A NORTH CAROLINA CLEAN TRANSPORTATION SUCCESS STORY

#### Company Spotlight

Freightliner is one of the leading producers of clean transportation technology, making strides both in alternative fuel vehicles and in fuel economy improvements for conventional diesel engines. Using BlueTec Emissions Technology for heavy-duty vehicles and Selective Catalytic Reduction systems on medium-duty vehicles, Freightliner has made great increases in fuel economy over the past several years. Their natural gas and hybrid electric vehicles are produced at their North Carolina facilities and have been a great success both for Freightliner and their customers, who provided part of the impetus for them to make alternative fuel vehicles.

#### Organization Details

Opened	1979
Locations	Mount Holly, NC Cleveland, NC
Primary Business	Truck Manufacturing
Employees	5,834 in NC
2013 Sales	1150 Natural Gas, 40 Hybrid Vehicles



The Freightliner Business Class M2 112 runs on clean burning natural gas.

Freightliner began manufacturing medium- and heavy-duty vehicles in North Carolina in 1979 with the opening of its Mount Holly plant, the current site of its alternative fuel vehicle production. They opened a second facility in Cleveland, North Carolina in 1989. Freightliner employs approximately 5800 people in their now four plants in North Carolina. Currently, Freightliner's primary focus is manufacturing heavy-duty trucks, including natural gas and hybrid vehicles. While the hybrid medium-duty vehicles are not as widely used, Freightliner heavy-duty natural gas vehicle sales have been increasing for the past several years. In 2013, heavy-duty natural gas vehicle sales reached almost 1200 vehicles. A majority of these natural gas vehicles were used by regional hauling companies, as well as refuse trucks in municipal government fleets.

## Outlook

Freightliner is driven to improve the environment by manufacturing vehicles that use cleaner burning fuels, particularly natural gas and hybrid electric. Together with their parent company, Daimler North America, Freightliner is part of the Shaping Future Transportation project, which has the ultimate goal of producing mainstream emissions-free transportation vehicles. Combined with their effort to protect the environment is their customer demand for alternative fuel powered trucks and more efficient vehicles. This customer demand has led to the development of Freightliner's BlueTec Emissions Technology and Selective Catalytic Reduction. This has caused a ripple effect of alternative fuel use; Freightliner manufactures more clean fuel vehicles because that's what their customers want, and their customers then work with other organizations who also want to use clean fuel vehicles, extending the circle even further.



The Freightliner M2E 106 diesel-electric hybrid is perfectly suited for utility applications.



***“Manufacturing alternative fuel vehicles has resulted in success not only for our company but also for our customers, who are now able to save on fuel costs and attract new customers who are interested in working with companies who use clean vehicles.”***

**-Greg Treinen**

**Product Market Segment Manager – Medium Duty & Alternate Fuels, Freightliner Trucks**

## Clean Fuels Advanced Technology Project 2013-2015

The Clean Fuel Advanced Technology (CFAT) project is currently in a third phase of support from the N.C. Department of Transportation with \$6.2 million in federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funding.

CFAT is focused on reducing transportation related emissions in the 24 North Carolina counties that have air quality concerns and are listed as non-attainment or maintenance status for national air quality standards. The 2013 to 2015 project is funded by the N.C. Department of Transportation and covers three broad areas: education and outreach, project funding, and recognition of exemplary activities.

The N.C. Clean Energy Technology Center has teamed up with the Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition, the Triangle Clean Cities Coalition, Piedmont Triad Regional Council, Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments and Kerr-Tar Council of Governments on education and outreach activities throughout the state. These partners are available to speak about clean transportation technologies and practices at local events.

## Contact

NC Clean Energy Technology Center  
Clean Transportation Program  
[cleantransportation@ncsu.edu](mailto:cleantransportation@ncsu.edu)

*This document is supported through the Clean Fuel Advanced Technology project with funding from the N.C. Department of Transportation.*