



<i>Organisation</i>	Fulton Hogan
<i>Location</i>	Tauranga, Bay of Plenty
<i>Date</i>	January 2007

Context

Fulton Hogan is a roading and infrastructure construction company founded in Dunedin in 1933 by Jules Fulton and Bob Hogan. Since that time, Fulton Hogan has grown to employ over 4000 staff with annual sales of NZ \$1 billion. With a strong focus on environmental sustainability in its operations, Fulton Hogan has won a number of environmental awards at both its own sites and for its projects.

Recent rises in fuel prices have led Fulton Hogan to focus closely on potential for savings. The company's fleet consumes more than 1.2 million litres of fuel per month with fuel accounting for 15% of operating costs.

Strategies

Fulton Hogan introduced a programme called Smart Drive with the objective of:

- Reducing maintenance.
- Saving Fuel.
- Protecting the environment.

The programme has included producing posters for drivers at company sites and inclusion of Smart Drive in the company's own training programme. The message for drivers has been in three areas with emphasis on idling times in heavy vehicles.

1. Fuel Facts

- Fulton Hogan uses more than 1.2 million litres of fuel per month.
- Fuel accounts for 15% of all operational costs.
- Efficient drivers can reduce fuel by 10-30%.
- One hour of idling is equivalent to wear on your engine from 190km of highway travel.
- Saving fuel saves time in the workshop.
- Save fuel by taking alternative transport to work.

2. Idling Gets You Nowhere

- Limit warm-up idling
 - No more than 3 minutes for heavy vehicles.
 - No more than 30 seconds for light vehicles.
 - Driving your vehicle gently is the best way to warm it up.
- Turn off while waiting.
 - 30 seconds idling uses more fuel than restarting your engine.
 - Frequent restarting of a warm engine has little impact on engine components, but excessive idling can shorten diesel engine life by up to 20%
 - Unnecessary idling damages diesel engines because low temperature combustion is incomplete and leaves unburned fuel residue.
- Idling gets you zero kilometres per litre.

3. Efficient driver checklist

- Plan your trip and take the best route.
- Keep to the speed limit.
- Maintain correct tyre pressure.
- Use engine braking wherever possible.
- Reduce idling.
- Use a light foot and drive smoothly.
- Use the correct gear – keep it in the green.
- Maximise loads for efficiency.

Challenges

Idling myths

The biggest hurdle for Smart Drive is overcoming misconceptions around idling. A common belief among HGV drivers is that idling is more fuel efficient and is kinder to diesel engines.

Fulton Hogan have tried to dispel this by issuing the message that for modern engines, turning off your engine if you will be idling for more than 30 seconds uses less fuel and does not damage the engine because it will still be warm.

Outcomes

Incentives

Fulton Hogan have issued inter-department challenges to encourage drivers to drive sustainably with prizes for the best performing teams.

