



HELPING ORGANIZATIONS MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS ABOUT ADVANCED VEHICLE AND ALTERNATIVE-FUEL VEHICLE FLEETS

THE CHALLENGE

For various reasons – including fuel costs and concerns over emissions – companies, municipalities and other organizations with fleets of vehicles are increasingly exploring and implementing advanced vehicles (e.g., electric vehicles, hybrid electric vehicles) and alternative-fuel vehicles (e.g., biodiesel, ethanol, hydrogen).

Because companies rely on their fleets to keep their businesses running smoothly and because decisions about those fleets have such a big impact – good or bad – given the scale, it’s important that companies have information and tools to help them make informed decisions.

Likewise, municipalities rely on fleets to deliver public services and have a particular responsibility to understand how their systems impact the public, so any insights they can gain on advanced vehicles and alternative-fuel vehicles is important.

THE INNOVATION

The U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE’s) Argonne National Laboratory has developed the Alternative Fuel Life-Cycle Environmental and Economic Transportation (AFLEET) tool.

First released in 2013, AFLEET provides comparative data for advanced and alternative-fuel vehicles on factors such as greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions, petroleum consumption, and the costs of vehicle ownership. AFLEET includes information on various light-duty and heavy-duty vehicle types, including passenger cars, buses, and garbage, pickup and freight trucks.

In 2018, Argonne released an enhanced, web-based version called AFLEET Online. It calculates 18 fuel and vehicle technologies as well as the payback benefits for vehicle purchases.

THE IMPACT

- Since AFLEET was launched in 2013, more than 8,000 users from industry, government, academia, and non-profits have leveraged the tool.
- Among the users are DOE’s Clean Cities coalitions, which work in communities across the U.S. to implement alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies. Since its inception in 1993, Clean Cities has saved millions of tons of greenhouse gas emissions and more than 8.5 billion gallons of petroleum.
- Since it was introduced in November 2018, AFLEET Online has accumulated more than 700 users.

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