



DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

12th September 2006

DCS18	IPWEA PLANT & VEHICLE MANAGEMENT SEMINAR FILE: P6-2	CAD
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SUMMARY:

Reporting on attendance at the IPWEA Plant & Vehicle Management System Plus Seminar.



DESCRIPTION:

The Director Corporate Services and the Fleet and Workshop Coordinator (Carol Dean) attended the IPWEA Plant & Vehicle Management Seminar held at Sydney on the 10 August 2006.

The one day forum addressed the following topics;

- Triple Bottom Line Light Fleet
- Monitoring Systems
- Owners Responsibilities
- Vehicle Leasing & Salary Packaging
- Local Case Study – Filter Alternatives

The seminar objectives included;

- To develop regional co-operation between neighbouring plant and fleet specialists
- To co-ordinate a national approach to Plant & Vehicle management
- To improve and expand on the skills taught in the Systems Plus workshops
- To highlight and encourage all organisation's to participate in the IPWEA Plant & Plant Systems Plus program
- To make available information on the latest technology and development in plant and fleet
- To develop a structured approach to Plant & Vehicle Management
- To offer industry best practice to participating organisation's

Coffs Harbour City Council, Nambucca Shire Council and Taree City Council also had attendees, which provided an excellent networking opportunity.

Triple Bottom Line Light Fleet

This topic addressed the replacement of light fleet based on a fully weighted assessment of the following factors;

- Whole of life costs
- Environmental
- Safety

Fleet Managers are moving to retention of vehicles for longer periods in view of high early depreciation and low resale values. Replacement schedules are now being based on 4 year changeovers.

Government fleet sales have dropped by 9,000 units so far this year. It should be noted that Kempsey Shire Council's General Fleet vehicle replacement program for 2006/07 only provides for the replacement of 2 units out of a total of 36 units (this represents an 18 year replacement cycle).

Alternate Fuels

The Australian market is less than 1% of the world's vehicles and has little or no influence on the world market.

LPG has the worst "whole of life" costing.

Biodiesel has problems with consistency. Users have reported increased incidence of filters blocking and vehicle breakdown. These problems are accentuated in cold weather.

Monitoring Systems

Andre Wessels (BIGmate Monitoring Services Pty Ltd) spoke of the benefits of remote monitoring systems and presented a range of data collection products.

Owners Responsibilities

This topic addressed the increased liability issues which must be considered when owning a fleet such as;

- Chain of responsibility, legislation loads and dimensions
- Providing a safe work place - occupational health and safety
- Maintenance liability

The Roads Transport legislation has been amended to spread the "chain of responsibility" for overall weight of loads, load restraint,

dimensions, etc. to include all parties – consignor, packer, loader, operator, receiver – NOT just the driver.

Penalties for breaches by an organisation are up to \$27,500 for the first offence, and double for subsequent offences.

Vehicle Leasing & Salary Packaging

Easilease Pty Limited presented information on Novated Leases and Salary Packaging. "An Employee Attraction Strategy or A Fleet Rationalisation Strategy".

Few Council's participate in novated leases and where they do so it is generally related to Human Resource issues ie. attraction for staff.

Filter Alternatives

Filter Technology Australia presented information on filter alternatives, which reduce emissions through improved fuel and oil quality.

Some large oil/diesel consumers (eg. mines) are now taking and testing samples of tanker load before accepting delivery. Loads which do not meet standard are rejected. Kempsey Shire Council has a filter installed at its diesel fuel pumps.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

Nil

- ***Social***

Nil

- ***Economic (Financial)***

Nil

- ***Policy or Statutory***

There are no policy or statutory implications arising from this report.

- ***Director's Review***

The Seminar provided up to date information on current issues related to fleet management, and enabled networking with staff from other Council's. The IPWEA website is an excellent resource.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be noted.

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G B Snape
DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES