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**20th anniversary AltWheels Fleet Day Helps Fleet Managers Navigate the Energy Transition**

***More than 300 Fleet Managers and Government Officials Share Concrete Steps to Save Costs While Reducing GHG Emissions***

Norwood, MA – October 12, 2023 – Clean energy experts and officials provided guidance on how to navigate the energy transition to more than 300 fleet managers and government leaders during the 20th annual AltWheels Fleet Day, the largest meeting of corporate and municipal Fleet Managers on the East Coast ([www.altwheels.org](http://www.altwheels.org)).

The 20th anniversary event, coincided with the 30th anniversary celebration of the Clean Cities Coalition Network, was held at the Four Points by Sheraton in Norwood. The event featured panels, exhibits, test drives, an address by EPA Region 1 administrator David W. Cash and a specially taped recorded welcome from Jay Leno!

Since 2003, Fleet Managers have come to recognize AltWheels as a leading source of practical information on how to improve performance in their fleets, saving costs while making fleets more environmentally sustainable. AltWheels Fleet Day provides corporate and municipal fleet managers with valuable insights on what has and hasn’t worked for others. Fleet Day focuses on the latest in fleet transportation technologies, alternative fuels, energy efficiency tools, and fleet management practices that can reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and operations costs.

“From our early years as a showcase event at the Larz Anderson Auto Museum, to our years as a public festival on Boston City Hall Plaza, to our current focus on practical steps fleets can implement, AltWheels has provided opportunities to learn directly from industry experts about how make transportation cleaner and more efficient,” said AltWheels founder Alison Sander. “So many are ready to take the next step but don’t know how to go about it. The experts at AltWheels provide many opportunities that can positively impact fleet managers’ bottom line while also helping to bring about a cleaner and more sustainable future.”

Featured panels included:

* Fleet Operations Managers: Managing the Energy Transition
* Navigating the Energy Transition: What is Coming Down the Pike
* AltFuels/Multi-Fuel focus: CNG, Propane, Biodiesel, Hydrogen
* Creating Resilient Fleets: Medium and Heavy-Duty Electrification
* What it Will Take to Get to Zero Emissions: Telematics, Infrastructure, and other Tools

**By the Numbers**

AltWheels Fleet Day featured 35 sponsors, 30 speakers, 21 co-hosts, 31 exhibitors, 26 vehicles in the Vehicle Showcase, and 32 fleets; more than 9 states were represented.

The day finished with the presentation of a series of Sustainable Mobility Leadership Awards in recognition of the progress the transportation industry has made over the last 20 years and those who have led the way.

The **Stephen R. Connors Visionary Award,** given to an individual who exhibits “Leadership in helping make changes in the environmental sector that positively impact the world,” was presented to Erin Russell-Story,Technology Integration Project Officer for the U.S. Department of Energy - National Energy Technology Laboratory.

Ms. Russell-Story is part of the Technology Integration team in the Energy Efficiency and Manufacturing group, which is part of the Technology Development Center at NETL. The National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) is the US Department of Energy’s (DOE) only government-owned/government-operated lab. NETL has been in existence for over 100 years and focuses on energy research as well as project management for multiple DOE directorates.

In addition to her project management duties, Erin serves as the Northeast Regional Manager for DOE’s Clean Cities program. She has over 26 years of experience in alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles and started her career as the Clean Cities Coordinator of the Northeast Ohio Clean Cities Coalition in 1997. She went on to take the helm of the Vermont Clean Cities Coalition, before joining NETL in 2009. In 2003, Ms. Russell-Story was honored with the Clean Cities Coordinator of the Year award and was inducted into the Clean Cities Hall of Fame in 2011.

“Receiving this award – even being nominated for this award – is really an honor. To be considered in the same category as Stephen Connors and the past award winners is truly meaningful. I am genuinely humbled by this award and will continue to work towards cleaner transportation solutions. It’s something that we all have to work on together. Never doubt that expanding the use of alternative fuels is of vital importance. Reducing emissions and carbon in the transportation sector is the best path forward to a sustainable future.”

Awards were also presented for:

**Regional Sustainable Mobility Leadership** – presented to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey – Jim Hineson, General Maintenance Supervisor and Mark Gernavage, Supervisor of Automotive Engineering accepted the award.

**Propane Usage Leadership –** presented to Hocon Gas **-** Leslie Anderson of Propane Gas Association of New England presented to David Gable, President of Hocon Gas.

**CNG Leadership –** presented toWegmans Food Markets - David Keefe presented the award to Wegmans Food Markets. Jon Hosier, Fleet Maintenance Manager and Mike Loss, Operations Manager Transportation accepted.

**Biodiesel Leadership –** presented to City of Cambridge Department of Public Works**.** Steve Russell presented the award to John Nardone, Deputy Commissioner, John Keeter, Fleet Manager, Tom Rowlings, Assistant Fleet Manager, Ellen Katz, Fiscal Director and Vanessa Pineda, Energy & Sustainability Analyst.

**Electric Vehicle Transition Leadership** - presented to UMass Chan Medical School by Meg Rivett to Suzanne Wood, associate director of sustainability and campus services, and Kortni Wroten, manager of sustainability and energy, Facilities Management.

**Best Local Community Event Organizer** – presented by Alison Sander to Karen Weber, creator of Boston Greenfest.

[Barry Carr](mailto:coordinator@ccofcny.com), Coordinator, Clean Communities of Central New York and [Jessica Wilcox,](mailto:jessica.l.wilcox@des.nh.gov) Transportation Program Specialist, Granite State Clean Cities, served as Masters of Ceremonies.

AltWheels fulfills its mission by showcasing vehicle and fuel technologies, educating passenger and fleet consumers on best practices, promoting real choices that exist in the marketplace, and stimulating the demand for choices that will improve our health, air quality, and survival.

Sponsors and exhibitors included:

**Premier Sponsors:** BorgWarner and Massachusetts Clean Cities Coalition.

**Gold Sponsors:** American Power Group, Anderson Blue Bird Bus Sales of New England, Bollinger Motors, BYD, Cusson Automotive, Eversource, Highland, Lightning eMotors, Merchants Fleet, National Grid, Nissan, Optimus Technologies, Pioneer e-Boost, Propane Gas Association of New England, PowerOptions, and Voltrek.

**Silver Sponsors:** Automotive Career Development Center, Boston Truck & Van, Environmental Defense Fund, Enterprise Fleet Management, Generac, GreenPower Motor Company, New England Truck Solutions, Peterbilt, Roundtrip EV, and ZEVX.

**Bronze Sponsors:** First Student and Environmental Protection Agency. **Green Sponsors:** Advanced Vehicle Technology Group, Greater New Haven Clean Cities Coalition, Key Solar and Stoneham Ford. **E-Sponsors:** Engie and Northeast Gas Association.

**Co-hosts:** American Public Works Association of New England, CALSTART, Capitol Clean Cities, Connecticut Southwestern Area Clean Cities Coalition, Clean Communities of Central New York, Clean Communities of Western New York, Empire Clean Cities, Foundation for a Green Future, Fuel Oil News, Greater New Haven Clean Cities, Greater Rochester Clean Cities, Massachusetts Clean Cities Coalition, National Association of Fleet Administrators (NAFA), New Jersey Clean Cities Coalition, North American Council for Freight Efficiency (NACFE), Pittsburg Region Clean Cities, Vermont Clean Cities Coalition.

Please visit [www.altwheels.org](http://www.altwheels.org/) for more information on this year’s event, videos and presentations.