



TUDENT TRANSPORTATION OF AMERICA

## PROPANE AUTOGAS PROVIDES SOLUTIONS TO LONG-STANDING INDUSTRY PAIN POINTS

**STUDENT TRANSPORTATION OF AMERICA, INC. SAYS PROPANE HAS HELPED IMPROVE DRIVER RETENTION, LOWER ITS FUEL AND MAINTENANCE COSTS, KEEP BUSES ON THE ROAD DURING COLD WEATHER, AND GROW ITS BUSINESS**

In the early 2010s, Student Transportation of America, Inc. [STA], one of the largest bus contractors in the United States, set goals to become the leader in green technology by offering an alternative fuel bus option for school districts. STA recognized that propane autogas not only provides several environmental benefits, but it also delivers the lowest total cost-of-ownership of any fuel, allowing STA to invest their savings into several areas, including increasing drivers' salaries to combat a growing epidemic of driver shortages many areas are dealing with across the country.

STA signed its first propane autogas bus contract with Omaha Public Schools for a total of 424 school buses. Since then, they've signed hundreds of propane contracts and have placed more than 2,500 propane-autogas-powered buses on the roads — accounting for nearly one-eighth of all propane-autogas-powered school buses operating in the U.S. in 2019.

STA senior vice president, Doug Gallagher, says school districts appreciate that the propane autogas buses provide a clean, safe ride to and from school and activities for students. In cities where reducing emissions is a major initiative (a growing list, to be sure), Gallagher says the propane-autogas-powered buses have helped STA secure more contracts. What's more, in cities that experience extreme winter weather, Gallagher says the propane autogas buses have been a major selling point because the fuel doesn't gel like diesel and cause cold start issues.

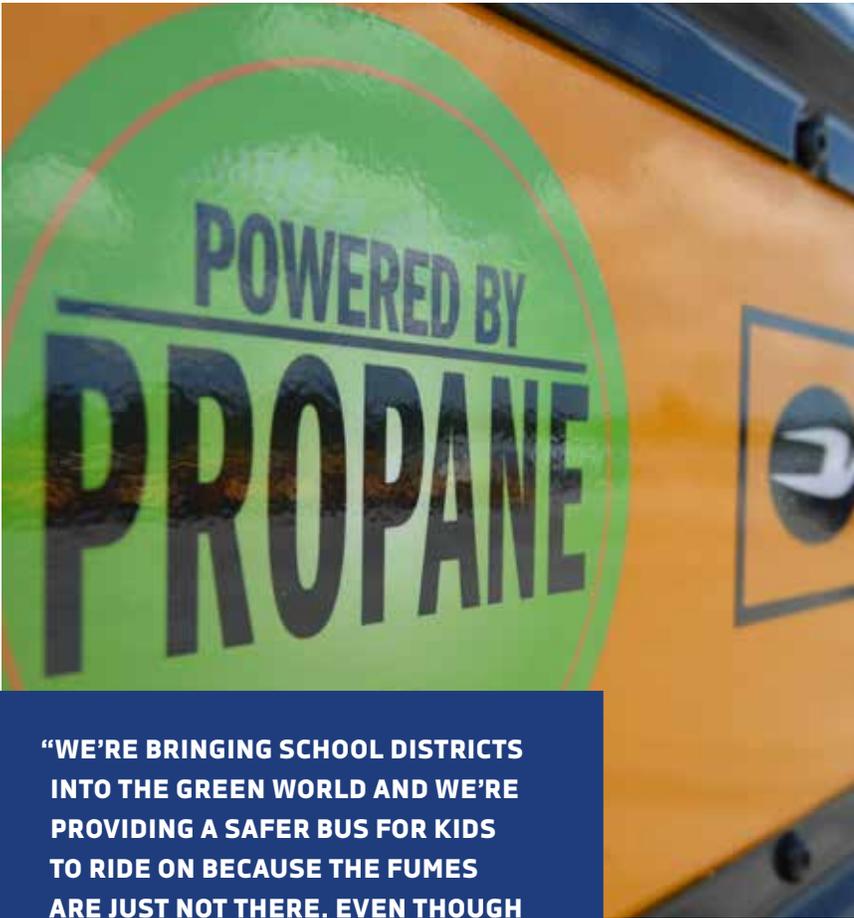
### EQUIPMENT FLEET PROFILE

2,500

Propane autogas Blue Bird and IC buses used nationwide

15%

of the fleet is propane autogas, and STA will continue to add buses as school districts contract for the fuel



**“WE’RE BRINGING SCHOOL DISTRICTS INTO THE GREEN WORLD AND WE’RE PROVIDING A SAFER BUS FOR KIDS TO RIDE ON BECAUSE THE FUMES ARE JUST NOT THERE. EVEN THOUGH TODAY’S DIESEL BUSES ARE SUPER CLEAN, PROPANE IS STILL CLEANER.”**

DOUG GALLAGHER  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT  
STA

## \$1/GALLON

STA pays about \$1 per gallon of propane compared to \$3 per gallon of diesel.

## DRIVER SATISFACTION

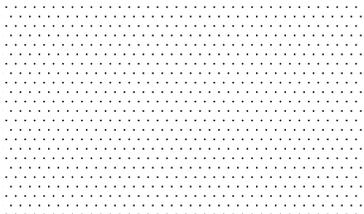
STA has improved driver retention and recruitment, not only because drivers are interested in driving propane autogas buses, but also because STA is investing the money they saved into drivers’ pay.

## REDUCED NO<sub>x</sub>

STA has significantly reduced its nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions in its propane autogas fleets compared to diesel, creating a cleaner environment for students.

## NO WARM UP

During the polar vortex of 2018, STA’s propane autogas school buses were starting with no additional warm up time needed. Meanwhile, neighboring school districts operating diesel buses had to cancel school because the buses wouldn’t start.



**“DURING THE POLAR VORTEX, SCHOOLS WERE CLOSING BECAUSE OUR COMPETITORS COULDN’T GET THEIR DIESEL BUSES STARTED. OUR PROPANE BUSES STARTED RIGHT UP. IN COLD WEATHER, YOU DON’T HAVE A PROBLEM STARTING THE BUSES.”**

DOUG GALLAGHER

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn about autogas vehicles and the fleets that use them, visit [Propane.com/Buses](http://Propane.com/Buses).

THE PROPANE EDUCATION & RESEARCH COUNCIL was authorized by the U.S. Congress with the passage of Public Law 104-284, the Propane Education and Research Act (PERA), signed into law on October 11, 1996. The mission of the Propane Education & Research Council is to promote the safe, efficient use of odorized propane gas as a preferred energy source.

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