



Lightning Hybrids

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PEAPOD ADDS TWO HYDRAULIC HYBRID DELIVERY TRUCKS TO FLEET **Lightning Hybrids provides system that reduces emissions and cuts fuel costs**

CHICAGO, May 19, 2016 – Peapod, the nation’s leading online grocer, took delivery of its first two fuel efficient, hydraulic hybrid delivery trucks this month. The vehicles, existing Workhorse walk-in vans with GM gasoline engines and equipped with the Lightning Hybrids Energy Recovery System (ERS), are in service on the streets of Chicago and were partially paid for by the Drive Clean Chicago voucher program for clean vehicles.

The trucks, the first hydraulic hybrids in Peapod’s fleet of approximately 130 vehicles in the Midwest, are expected to significantly reduce fuel consumption, reduce brake maintenance costs and cut emissions for cleaner air in the neighborhoods where Peapod delivers.

“Peapod, by design, is a green company,” said Claudia Fikert, transportation fleet administrator, Midwest

Region, Peapod, LLC. “Every Peapod truck on the road eliminates the need for an average of 20 passenger vehicles to drive to the grocery store. The addition of these hydraulic hybrid trucks to the Peapod fleet further increases the benefit and reduces our carbon footprint. The Drive Clean Chicago voucher program made it easy for us to add the Lightning Hybrids system to our mix of effective ways to reduce emissions, as well as increase fuel efficiency and make Peapod a better neighbor in the communities we serve.”



Figure 1 Peapod delivery truck equipped with Lightning Hybrids ERS

The Lightning Hybrids system was installed at the Advanced VTech facilities in Buffalo Grove, Ill. “The ERS system that we installed offers a quick return on investment due to outstanding fuel and brake savings,” said Ron Sheble, vice president of finance for Advanced VTech. “We retrofitted the hydraulic hybrid system to standard Peapod delivery vehicles with minimum downtime. We expect emissions to be reduced by 50 percent, and the vehicles now have more power for acceleration and smoother braking.”

“We are very excited to launch this project with Peapod and Advanced VTech, and to have the support of the Drive Clean Chicago voucher,” said David Brosky, vice president of sales for Lightning Hybrids. “Our ERS is perfect for Peapod’s urban and suburban routes and will lower their fuel costs. The Drive Clean Chicago voucher program provides a strong incentive for fleets that may be on the fence about trying a different technology.”

The Lightning Hybrids ERS on a Peapod vehicle was unveiled at the Lake Michigan Clean Cities Consortium’s Green Drives Conference and Expo today in Naperville, at which nearly 250 attendees learned about steps they can take to make their fleets less reliant on petroleum, cleaner with lower emissions, and more fuel efficient.

“The new vehicle that Peapod and Lightning Hybrids debuted today is an example of the innovative solutions being implemented by our Clean Cities member fleets,” said Joe Koenig, communications manager, Chicago Area Clean Cities Coalition. “Today, we had 40 environmentally friendly vehicles showcased at our Green Drives Conference, and 25 exhibitors featured their technologies for green transportation.”

Peapod’s hydraulic hybrids are on the road in Chicago now. Lightning Hybrids currently has systems operating in fleets around the world with orders for more in Chicago and Massachusetts in the next month. The ERS is made and assembled in Loveland, Colorado at Lightning Hybrids’ advanced manufacturing and engineering facilities.

About Lightning Hybrids

Lightning Hybrids designs and manufactures the Energy Recovery System (ERS) for medium and heavy duty fleet vehicles. The system provides fuel efficiency by regenerating braking energy, provides safer braking and more power for acceleration, and decreases emissions of greenhouse gases and air quality pollutants. The Lightning Hybrids system does not have any batteries, instead safely and efficiently storing energy mechanically in composite hydraulic accumulators, which are a fraction of the cost and weight of batteries. The system can be installed on new vehicles as well as retrofitted on vehicles already in service and comes with a proprietary telematics component that monitors efficiency to allow fleet managers to optimize the hybrid system. It is sold through a network of dealers and upfitters. Additional company information can be found online at www.lightninghybrids.com.

About Peapod

Peapod – an Ahold USA company – is the country’s leading Internet grocer, serving 24 U.S. markets throughout Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, Washington, D.C. and Wisconsin. Founded in 1989 as a smart shopping option for busy households, today Peapod has delivered more than 35 million grocery orders. Customers can order online or on Peapod’s free mobile app for delivery to homes and workplaces or pick-up at many convenient locations. For more information on Peapod, call 1.800.5.PEAPOD (1.800.573.2763), e-mail service@peapod.com or visit www.peapod.com.

About Advanced VTech

Advanced VTech is a full service auto and truck repair business conveniently located in Buffalo Grove, Ill. Advanced VTech has developed a core competency in the installation, maintenance, and repair of natural gas, propane, and biodiesel fuel systems. Additional company information can be found at <http://www.advancedvtech.com>.

About Drive Clean Chicago

Drive Clean Chicago is a \$14 million incentive program funded through the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT). Three innovative funds aim to accelerate the adoption of alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure – Drive Clean Truck, Drive Clean Taxi, and Drive Clean Station. Drive Clean Chicago is designed to provide applicants with a clear and efficient pathway to making smart investments in clean technology. Eligible counties are Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will. For more information, please visit www.drivecleanchicago.com

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