

Report on the 1st Myanmar CNG For Transport, Industry and Power Forum 2014, 24th – 25th June 2014, Yangon, Myanmar

The 1st Myanmar CNG For Transport, Industry and Power Forum 2014 was successfully held at the Chatrium Royal Lake Hotel, Yangon, Myanmar. The Forum was jointly organized by ANGVA, All Events Group (AEG), and Myanmar New Technology (M.N.T.). The Forum was attended by 137 delegates (38 overseas) from 17 countries. Four (4) companies: Hexagon Lincoln (the Forum’s Gold Sponsor), BRC, GT Auto Gas, and Landi Renzo & Safe, exhibited their products and services at the Forum. This is the second time ANGVA organized an event in Myanmar, the first time was the flag-off ceremony of the ANGVA Green Highways 2011 on 8th October 2011 in Yangon, Myanmar.

This 1st Myanmar CNG Forum was officiated by His Excellency Minyt Swe, the Chief Minister of Yangon Region. Among the many VVIPs present was the Managing Director of Myanmar Oil & Gas Enterprise (MOGE) U Myo Myint Oo. The two days event included visits to MOGE’s NGV Refueling Station and MOGE’s CNG Cylinder Recertification Centre in the afternoon of Day 2. A total of 12 speakers (5 from Myanmar) made presentations at the forum and a panel discussion was also convened.



Left & Top: HE Minyt Swe, Chief Minister of Yangon Region



Left & Bottom:
VVIPs and
Delegates of the
Forum





Top: At the exhibition

U Tun Muang Muang, Executive Engineer, MOGE in his presentation on “Gas Utilization in Myanmar: Opportunities and Challenges” informed that Myanmar has both onshore and offshore natural gas production. Onshore natural gas production was 65 mmscfd and offshore production was 1530 mmscfd. All onshore gas was for domestic consumption (29% for transport, 18% for power, 13% for industries, 31% for feedstock, and 9% for others). For the offshore gas, 1202 mmscfd gas was exported to Thailand and China and 328 mmscfd was for domestic consumption (95 % for power and 5 % for industries). He also highlighted that natural gas demand in Myanmar was 12.5 % per year.

Right:
U Tun Muang
Muang



Right:
U Hla Win Htay



U Hla Win Htay, General Manager, CNG, MOGE, in his presentation on “Status of CNG Activities & Technology in Myanmar” traced the beginning of NGV in Myanmar in 1986 whereby 500 NGV passenger buses were converted for testing and trial in Yangon, Chuak and Yenangyaung by Ministry of Energy using adapted oil field equipment and air compressors. The full implementation of NGV programme in Myanmar started in 2004 utilising the onshore gas supply from the Nyaungdon gas field (supply capacity of 30 mmscfd) which was rich in methane, high calorific value, and had no nitrogen, carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulphide in its composition.

At present there are 27,756 natural gas vehicles and 45 stations (including daughter stations) in four areas of Myanmar i.e. Paleik (Mandalay), Chauk, Yenangaung and Yangon. Most of the natural gas vehicles (97%) are located in Yangon. All these vehicles are consuming around 21 mmscfd of natural gas from the onshore Nyaungdon gas field. As the current onshore gas production capacity is limited and the offshore natural gas composition contain high amount of nitrogen and low calorific value, further growth and expansion of the NGV market in Myanmar will depend on the installation of nitrogen remover in the offshore gas supply. MOGE is in the process of installing Nitrogen Remover for the offshore gas supply. While waiting for the availability of offshore gas to supply to the NGV market in Myanmar, MOGE is taking steps to replace and upgrade the old equipment at its existing NGV refueling stations.

U Hla Win Htay also highlighted the initiative taken by MOGE to ensure the safety of CNG cylinders by establishing a CNG Cylinder Recertification Centre in 2010. It is now mandatory for all 5 years old or more CNG cylinders installed onboard natural gas vehicles to be tested and recertified by MOGE. External and internal inspection and Hydrostatic test, and replacement of the cylinder valve were carried out on all CNG cylinders at this MOGE CNG Cylinder Recertification Centre. To cope with the high demand, MOGE plan to increase the rate of recertification to 300 cylinders per day.

Col.(rtd). Thoung Win, Chairman of the Energy and Renewable Energy Committee and also Chairman of the Myanmar Engineering Society, presented on “The Role of Natural Gas in Myanmar National Energy Policy”. Col. Thoung Win is involved in the preparation of Myanmar’s National Energy Policy that is expected to be approved by the government in six months time. The National Energy Policy covers nine (9) sectors including the Oil and Natural Gas Sector. Under the Oil and Natural Gas sector, the policy objective includes:

- To expand energy transportation infrastructure in order to transport energy to consumers.
- To expand utilization programmes of CNG for oil substitute and LPG as substitute for domestic fuels.

The work programmes includes:

- Expand existing transportation infrastructure for transportation of oil and gas.
- Expand wider use of CNG in transportation and expand wider distribution of LPG with import as well as domestic production.



Top (from left): Col. (rtd) Thoung Win, Col. (rtd) Myo Myint, and U Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing

The other two speakers from Myanmar were Col.(rtd) Myo Myint, the Managing Director of Bandoola Transportation who presented on his company experiences in operating fleet of CNG buses and taxis in Myanmar under the title “CNG Conversion and Usage in Myanmar”. The other speaker, U Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing, Chairman of Myanmar’s Smart Group of Companies, presented an “Overview of the Power Sector and Outlook of Utilizing Natural Gas to Meet Increasing Demand”. U Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing highlighted that recoverable natural gas reserves from offshore of Myanmar is around 19 TCF on the low side and 40 TCF on the high side.



Top (from left): Mr. Punnachai Footrakul, Ms. Chairani Rachmatullah, and Mr. Robbie Sukardi

Speakers from overseas included Mr. Punnachai Footrakul, Vice President of NGV Marketing, PTT PLC, Thailand who presented on “Sustaining The NGV Business Growth in Thailand”; Ms. Chairani Rachmatullah, Senior Manager of PT PLN (the Electricity Utility company of Indonesia) who presented on “CNG Utilization for Power Generation – Experience from World’s Largest CNG and Storage Utilization User”; Mr. Robbie Sukardi, President of the CNG Association of Indonesia who spoke on “Utilizing CNG for Industries and Industrial Estates – Case Study Indonesia”; and Mr. Dinh Dang Vu, Manager of Planning and Sales, PetroVietnam Southern Gas who spoke on “Effective CNG Mother-Daughter Infrastructure and Gas Transportation for Industries in Vietnam”.



Top: Mr. Dinh Dang Vu

Right: Panel Discussion in session.



A Panel Discussion on “Forging Ahead with CNG for Transport, Industry and Power Generation” was convened with 4 panelists comprising of Mr. Robbie Sukardi, Mr. Punnachai Footrakul, Mr. Goh Tat Chuan (Regional Sales Director of Hexagon Lincoln), and U Zeya Thura Mon (Managing Director of GK Power Systems Company Ltd, Myanmar). The Panel Discussion was moderated by Lee Giok Seng, Executive Director of ANGVA.



Top: Visit to MOGE NGV Refuelling Station



Top: Visit to MOGE CNG Cylinder Recertification Centre

Reported by Lee Giok Seng, Executive Director, ANGVA, 8th July 2014