

# Fueling Station Offers Improved Service and Safety to Users at Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, PA

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On October 22, 2002, DDSP Commander, Captain Robert Ritchie, Supply Corps, United States Navy, cut the ribbon and opened a compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station. Replacing an existing CNG station, the new station provides more efficient service to users of government vehicles powered by CNG; has a larger storage capacity, dispenses fuel faster, is more similar to a gasoline pumping station, and is centrally located on the installation.

DDSP has used CNG fueled vehicles for five years and currently has a fleet of forty-four, including cars, vans, and various work trucks that run on dedicated or dual (CNG and gasoline) systems. Because CNG disperses in air, burns cleaner than gasoline, and currently costs \$.76 cents a gallon, its use supports Executive Orders 13031 and 13149, and the Energy Policy Act of 1992. While using alternative fueled vehicles (AFV's) and reducing its dependency on foreign oil,

DDSP benefits from added and inherent safety features. The CNG storage tanks on vehicles are built stronger and fuel leaks do not carry the risk of catching fire, as do liquefied fuels.

DDSP's Facility Maintenance Engineering Branch, in coordination with the Mobile Equipment Maintenance Branch and contractors, performed site preparation, installed three storage units, a compressor, one dispenser, and tested for operational use. The Mobile Equipment Branch, which operates the installation refueling stations and purchases replacement vehicles for DDSP, projects the number of government-owned AFV's to increase as the market expands its selection of vehicles and experiments with additional options such as electric and hybrid vehicles. CAPT Ritchie presented Commander Coins to Mr. Kurt Lytle from Engineering and Mr. Dale Etzweiler from Mobile Equipment in recognition for their support in implementing the CNG fueling station project.



(left to right) *DDSP Commander CAPT Ritchie, Nick Fazzolari, Larry Metcalk, and Dale Etzweiler are the first to use the newly installed CNG fueling station.*



*The CNG fueling station is supported by a dispenser, compressor and three storage units, which are the horizontal cylinders shown in the background.*