



For Immediate Release

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ALVAN MOTOR FREIGHT INSTALLS THE AUTOTHERM® ENERGY RECOVERY SYSTEM; REDUCES IDLING, FUEL COSTS AND EMISSIONS ON 40 TRUCKS

Company secures grant to help pay for the systems

Lake Zurich, IL, December 14, 2006 – The drivers of Alvan Motor Freight’s trucks covering Washtenaw County, Michigan this winter will be able to keep the cabs of these trucks warm without burning fuel, idling the engines or polluting the air. That’s because Alvan installed the AUTOTHERM® Energy Recovery System on 40 trucks, thanks to a grant secured by the Clean Energy Coalition (CEC) from the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth, Energy Office.

The AUTOTHERM® Energy Recovery System (ERS) enables a vehicle heater to operate in cold weather, without idling the engine, by powering up the vehicle’s HVAC system through the ERS’s Central Control Unit. By continuing to circulate the hot engine coolant by means of a small but powerful electric pump, the system keeps the cab of the truck warm.

The same ERS can also be used in warm weather to keep excess heat from building up in a stationary cab and providing cab ventilation with the AUTOVENT™ feature.

Large diesel operated truck engines can waste up to a gallon and a half of fuel each hour that they idle. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, trucks can spend up to 1,680 hours of unnecessary idling a year. During the winter, the average long distance trucking company wastes approximately \$3,000 per truck in fuel while idling. Less idling also means less engine wear. That adds to the life of the engine and saves, on average, \$325 annually (USDOE study) in engine service expenses.

Eliminating the need to idle also significantly reduces air pollution. Vehicles and drivers that use idle reduction technologies and/or practices can greatly reduce fuel costs and emissions. Medium and heavy-duty vehicles, especially diesel-powered vehicles, are large contributors to air pollution, making air unhealthy to breathe and increasing health care costs.

The AUTOTHERM® Energy Recovery System is a technology that is associated with improved sources of energy, is a more efficient use of energy and manages energy waste better. As a result, the CEC was able to procure, on Alvan's behalf, fifty percent of the cost of labor and materials for the AUTOTHERM® Energy Recovery System from the State of Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth, Energy Office.

“By installing the AUTOTHERM® Recovery System in 40 of our trucks, we will break even with the cost of the units in about two years and will save approximately \$33,000 in fuel over the next five years. In addition, we will be significantly reducing harmful emissions by eliminating the need to idle our trucks,” Jim Partridge, Director of Equipment and Maintenance of Alvan Motor Freight, said.

To calculate his payback period Mr. Partridge was very conservative; assuming only a one hour per day reduction in idling per truck during a 20 week heating season.

The AUTOTHERM® ERS can be installed in a wide range of vehicles that are used in many different ways. The key elements in determining the payback period for a particular vehicle or fleet are: the amount of hours of idling it eliminates, the price of fuel and how

many gallons of fuel the engine consumes per hour while idling. This calculation quite frequently shows the payback period for the AUTOTHERM® ERS to be 2 to 6 months.

A member of the SmartWay Transport Partnership, Alvan will be able to attain one of the core components of the program by reducing unnecessary idling in 40 trucks by having installed the AUTOTHERM® Recovery System.

“We are proud to be able to help Alvan work toward their fuel conservation goals and be a more environmentally friendly company,” Don Boyer, Senior Vice President of International Sales for AUTOTHERM®, said.

The Clean Energy Coalition (CEC) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting clean energy technologies as a way to create healthier, energy independent communities. Learn more on the web at www.cec-mi.org.

Alvan Motor Freight, Inc, in business for 65 years, is a Midwestern regional motor carrier that transports a wide variety of commodities.

The AUTOTHERM® Division of Enthel Systems, Inc. is a leading provider of fuel-saving, comfort-enhancing products to commercial fleets and owner-operators. For more information regarding the AUTOTHERM® Energy Recovery System, please contact:

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