



U S Postal Service Fleet Planning and Management

GovEnergy 2007



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Topics

- **Fleet overview**
 - **Mileage reduction strategies**
 - **Alternative fuel vehicles**
 - **Light duty fleet replacement planning**
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Largest Civilian Vehicle Fleet

- **U.S. Postal Service: 215,000 vehicles**
 - **GSA: 172,677 vehicles**
 - **UPS: 88,000 vehicles**
 - **State of CA: 48,500 vehicles**
 - **FedEx: 40,000 vehicles**
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Postal Owned Vehicles in Fleet

■ Mail Delivery Vehicles

– Long Life Vehicles (LLVs) 142,000

– Flexible Fuel Vehicles (FFVs) 31,000

■ Class 8 tractors 1,800

■ Spotter Tractors 400

■ Class 7 Cargo van 2,500

■ Class 3/4 (step van) 8,500

■ Other Delivery and Admin Vehicles 22,000



USPS VEHICLES

5 Year Plan – Reduce Miles by 5%

- **Nearly 2 million new delivery addresses are added each year**
 - **Mileage reduction strategies for**
 - **City delivery routes**
 - **Rural routes with USPS vehicles**
 - **Postal Vehicle Service (PVS) - mail transport**
 - **Non Mail Hauling Vehicles**
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USPS VEHICLES

5 Year Mileage Reduction Plan

■ City Delivery Strategies

- Manage miles – Actual vs. Authorized
 - Route Reductions
 - Route Optimization
 - Growth Management
 - Right size the fleet
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USPS VEHICLES

5 Year Mileage Reduction Plan – City Delivery

- **Manage miles – Actual vs. Authorized**
 - Review daily mileage deviation reports
 - Pivoting plans incorporate geographic locations into decision process
 - Route Proximity Report
 - Pivoting Projection and Staffing Model
 - Manage mileage deviations through Managed Service Points
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USPS VEHICLES

5 Year Mileage Reduction Plan – City Delivery

■ Route reductions

- Absorb new deliveries
 - 900 delivery routes worth/year
 - Eliminates drive-out miles of new routes
 - Continue route reduction strategies
 - Standard route evaluation process
 - New automation impacts
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USPS VEHICLES

5 Year Mileage Reduction Plan – City Delivery

■ Route optimization

- Carrier Optimization Routing program

 - Optimization of lines of travel

 - Reduces “fractured routes”

 - Reduce the number of parking points

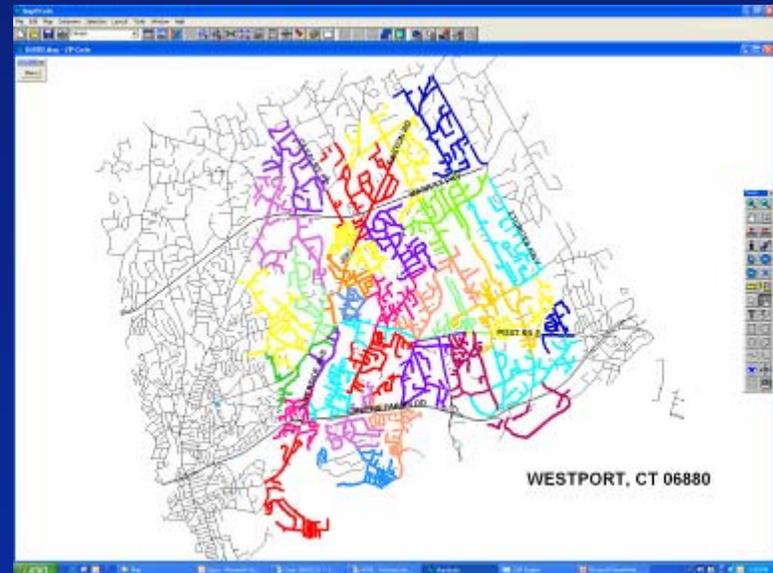
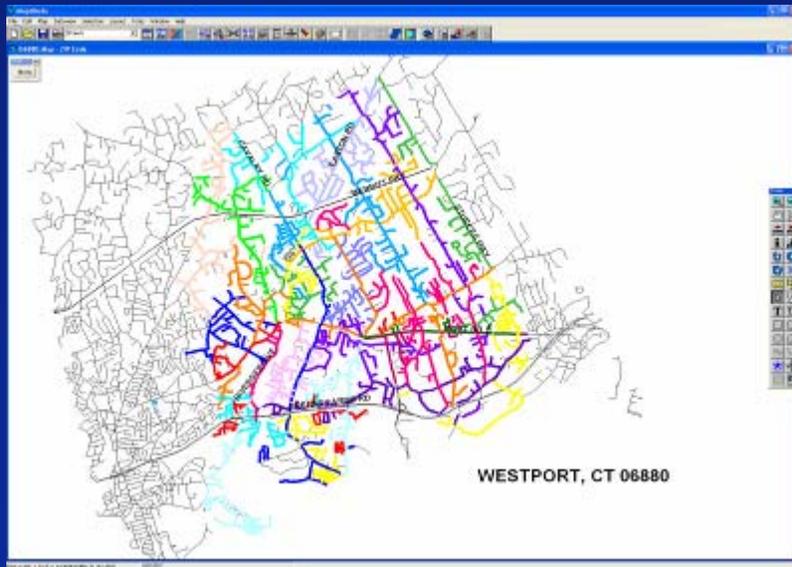


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Carrier Optimal Routing Program

Original

Optimized





USPS VEHICLES

5 Year Mileage Reduction Plan – City Delivery

- **Growth management**
 - Expand use of centralized delivery

 - **Right size the fleet**
 - Eliminate excess vehicles
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USPS VEHICLES

5 Year Mileage Reduction Plan

- **Rural routes**

- **USPS vehicles**

- **26,000 by 2008**

- **15% of USPS owned delivery vehicles**

- **Implement actual vs. authorized mileage on postal owned vehicles**



USPS VEHICLES

5 Year Mileage Reduction Plan – PVS

■ Reduce total trips

- Computerized container and load tracking
 - Improves truck utilization
 - Reduces extra trips
 - Rationalization of surface transportation requirements
 - Coordinated actions with Network Operations and Supply Management
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USPS VEHICLES

5 Year Plan – Non Mail Hauling Vehicles

- **Reduce miles by reducing vehicles**
 - **New minimum use policy**
 - **300 miles or 12 days used per month**
 - **Monthly tracking**
 - **Moratorium on purchase**
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Alternative Fuel Program History

- 1899 – First electric vehicle in NY
 - 1959 – Electruck tested – Jeep Model
 - 1979-1984 – Jeep CNG vehicles used
 - 1991-96 – 7,500 LLVs conv. to CNG
 - 1997 – 35 LLVs conv. to propane
 - 1998-99, 2003 – 27,000 FFVs
 - 2001 – 500 electric vehicles
 - 2003 – 20 electric 2-ton vehicles
 - 2004 – Hydrogen fuel cell minivan test started
 - 2005 – 2-ton vehicle conv. to electric hybrid
 - 2005 – 10 hybrid electric Ford Escapes test
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Ethanol E85

■ Experience

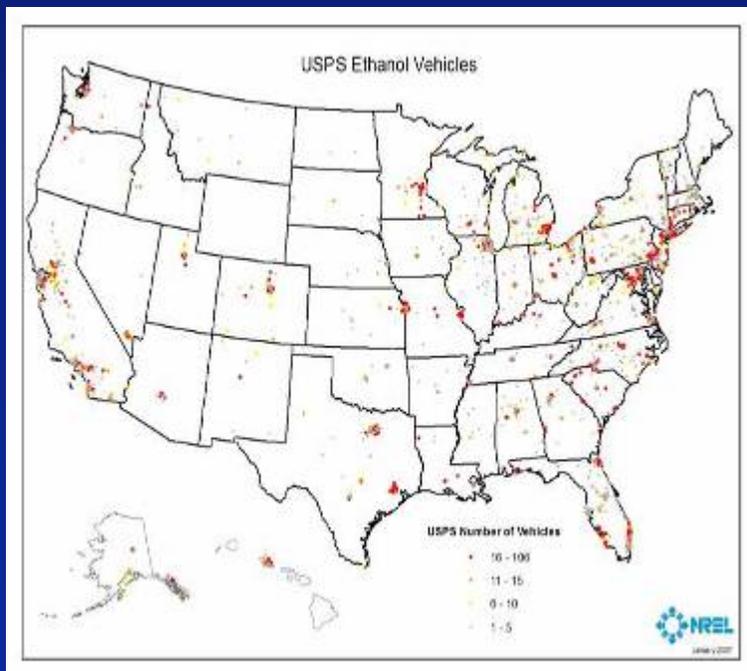
- Test Sites: Nationwide
 - Vehicles: 36,491
 - Flex fuel vehicle models:
 - 21,275 LLVs
 - 9,360 Dodge Caravans
 - 5,856 Chevrolet Uplanders
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Ethanol E85





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Ethanol E85

■ Lessons Learned

- Only 1,100 retail sites sell ethanol, primarily in Mid-West
 - External support needed to increase the infrastructure
 - Vehicle Manufacturers are only selling 6 and 8 cylinder ethanol capable vehicles
 - Oversized for USPS requirements
 - Increased gasoline consumption by 1.5 million gallons
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Ethanol E85

■ Lessons Learned (Cont.)

- E85 Decreased overall fuel efficiency of 29%
 - The price must be at least 30% less than gasoline to be a cost-effective
 - In FY 2006, the Postal Service used over 375,000 gallons of ethanol
 - No changes in technology or use
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Ethanol E85

■ Next Steps

- Increase use of fuel when competitively priced and conveniently available
 - Take lessons learned from MN and apply to other Midwestern locations
 - Focus new vehicle deployment to locations with convenient and economically priced ethanol
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Ethanol E85

- **Northland District – Ethanol Fuel Use**
 - Increased its use of E85 in its delivery fleet by 64.65% in 3 years
 - MN Lung Association and state worked to increase the number of E85 retail sites
 - Ethanol stations increased from 15 to over 200 sites in the last 5 years
 - Managed the placement of 584 ethanol capable vehicles to increase E85 use
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Compressed Natural Gas

■ Experience:

- Test Sites: Nationwide
- Vehicles: 7,500 converted in early 1990s
- Models: LLV
- Test Dates: Mid 1990s

■ Used CNG retail fuel sites





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Compressed Natural Gas

■ Lessons Learned

- 2 of 3 conversion kit manufacturers have gone out of business**
 - No decrease in overall maintenance**
 - Less than 1,000 vehicles use CNG currently**
 - Gas companies pulled CNG availability at retail stations due to reduced demand**
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Compressed Natural Gas

■ **Next Steps**

- **Identifying all vehicles still using CHG**
 - **Evaluate impact of long term use of CNG**
 - **Identify fueling scenarios that make economic sense**
 - **Inexpensive fuel, available infrastructure**
 - **Inexpensive re-fueling options in smaller offices**
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Propane

■ Experience:

- Test Sites: Key West, FL
- Vehicles: 35 Converted in the late 1990s
- Models: LLVs
- Test Dates: Late 1990s





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Propane

■ Lessons Learned

- Conversion kit produces more emissions than gasoline and more flammable
- Only LPG available on the island
- Low-tech solution – no oversight required
- Same cost as gasoline on a per gallon basis

■ Next Steps

- Keep supporting the project
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Electric

■ Experience

- Test Site: CA and NYC
- Vehicles: 530
- Models: 500 LLVs (purchased in 2000) and 30 2-ton vehicles (purchased in 2003 and 2005)
- Test Dates: 2000, 2003 - 2005



■ Produces no emissions



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Electric

■ Lessons Learned

- 500 LLVs manufactured by Ford in 2000
- Battery production ended and vehicles were exchanged by Ford in 2002
- 2-ton vehicles have performed well in NYC
- Training required for new drivers
- Unsure of long-term battery viability

■ Next Steps

- Continue to monitor NYC performance
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Hybrid Electric

■ Experience:

– Test Sites: VA, MA and CA

– Vehicles: 12

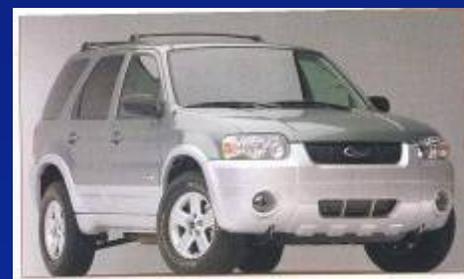
– Test Dates: 2003 - present

– Models:

– 1-Toyota Prius,

– 10-Ford Escapes,

– 1-two ton vehicle (converted in 2004)





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Hybrid Electric

■ Lessons Learned

- Toyota Prius -- 24,000 mile durability test with no major problems
- Ford Escapes -- 22 vs. 11.7 mpg vs. non-hybrids
- Two-ton vehicle -- 21% mpg improvement
- Not an EPA Act Compliant fuel/vehicle

■ Next Steps

- Continue to monitor the batteries life
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Hydrogen Fuel Cell

- **Experience:**

- Test Sites: VA and CA

- Vehicles: 2 GM Minivans



- **Signed a three year agreement with General Motors**

- **No Emissions**



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Hydrogen Fuel Cell

■ Lessons Learned

- Reliable
- 50% more efficient
- Very limited infrastructure
- At least 5-years before production

■ Next Steps

- Current test will be concluded in Sept.
 - Expect to test new Chevy Equinox in 2008
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Clean Diesel Vehicles

■ Experience:

– Test Sites: IL

– Vehicles: 10

– Models: Chrysler Jeep Liberty

– Test Dates: 2005-present

■ Easy to integrate into operations





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Clean Diesel Vehicles

■ Lessons Learned

- Lower emissions
- Diesel is about the same price as gasoline
- Jeep Liberty is no longer manufactured
- Filled with B5 diesel off the assembly line

■ Next Steps

- Test LLV diesel conversion on all route types
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Biodiesel

■ Experience:

- Test Sites: NY, FL, MI, MO
- Vehicles: 929
- Models: Heavy-duty trucks
- Test Dates: 2001 - present



- Fuel provided by local vendors or contractors
 - NY only site currently participating
 - Fuel dispensed from existing Postal Service tanks in NY
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Biodiesel

■ Lessons Learned

- Improved emissions and comparable price to straight diesel
 - No changes in technology or use
 - Lack of B20 fuel standards results in inconsistent quality
 - Higher maintenance – fuel filter replacement and cold weather storage precautions
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Biodiesel

■ Next Steps

- Expand use of biodiesel where possible
 - Provide necessary maintenance training
 - Undergoing fuel quality testing for bulk fuel deliveries
 - Further testing and analysis of fuel filters by NREL
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Next Steps

- **Monitor and test alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles**
 - **Develop requirements for different segments of the delivery fleet**
 - **Prepare for LLV replacement**
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USPS Delivery Vehicle Facts

- An “average” LLV
 - Is driven 16 miles/day, about 5,000 miles annually.
 - Is in service 5 - 6 hours a day, 302 days a year
 - Gets 10.4 MPG
 - Is 16 -17 years old (oldest - 20, newest - 13)
 - Is probably on its second engine, and 3rd or 4th transmission





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Miles per Gallon Efficiency

Vehicle Type	Park & Loop	Curbline	Rural
LLV (RHD)	10.4	9.6	11.9
FFV (RHD)	8.6	7.7	8.8
Minivan (LHD)	11.7	N/A	N/A
Jeep Liberty (LHD - diesel)	12.2	N/A	N/A
Ford Escape (LHD - hybrid)	19.8	N/A	N/A



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Projected Investment Recovery Period Based on Increased Fuel Economy

Vehicle Type	Acquisition Costs	Length of time to recover investment difference based on fuel economy	
		2007	2005
2005 Minivan (gasoline)	\$19,448	-	-
2007 Minivan (gasoline)	\$15,501	-	-
Ford Escape (hybrid)	\$25,026	15 + yrs.	25 + yrs.



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Vehicle Manufacturing Realities

- **USPS is the largest civilian fleet in the world**
 - **North American manufacturers produce 17M vehicles annually**
 - **USPS fleet of 215,000 is 1.3% of annual total**
 - **OEMs value our business for mainstream vehicles**
 - **Our specialty vehicles (RHD & EPA Act compliance) don't create big interest**
 - **Our unique requirements appeal to non traditional companies and/or integrators**
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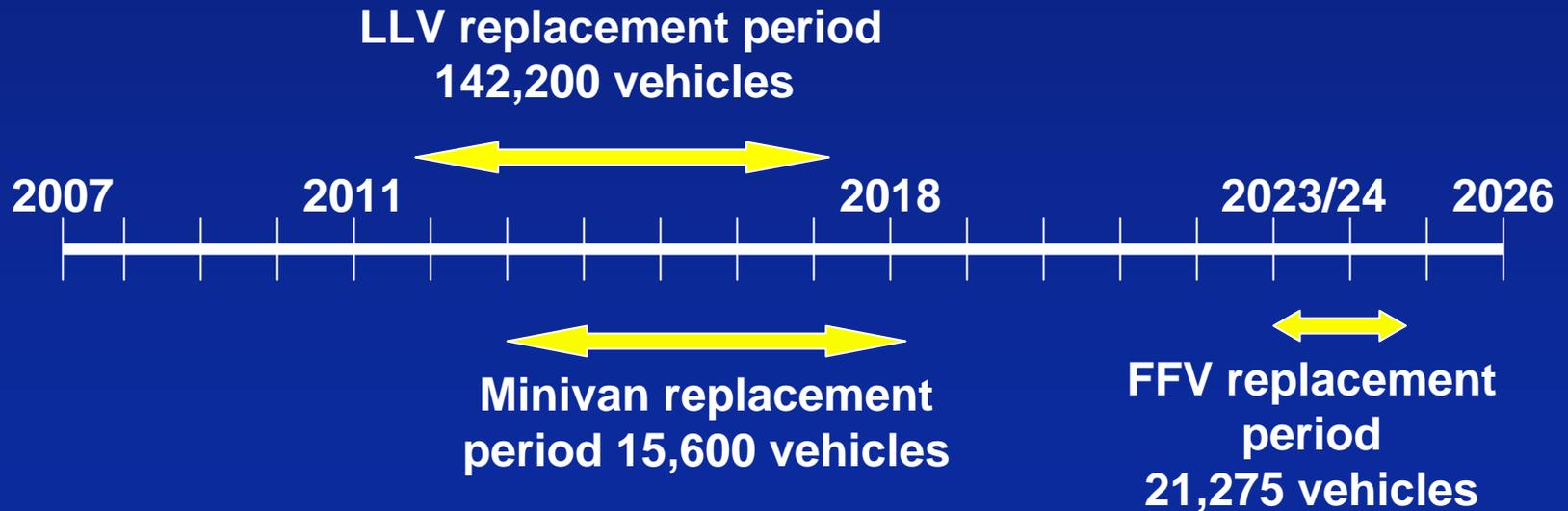
USPS Vehicle Replacement

- **Less dependency on RHD vehicles**
 - Many RHDs on P&L routes
 - Can be replaced with less expensive LHDs without adverse impact
- **Implementation of new technology**
 - Reduction in the number of routes means reduced vehicle requirements
- **Future rural route vehicle commitments**



Carrier Route Vehicles Replacement Tentative Timeline

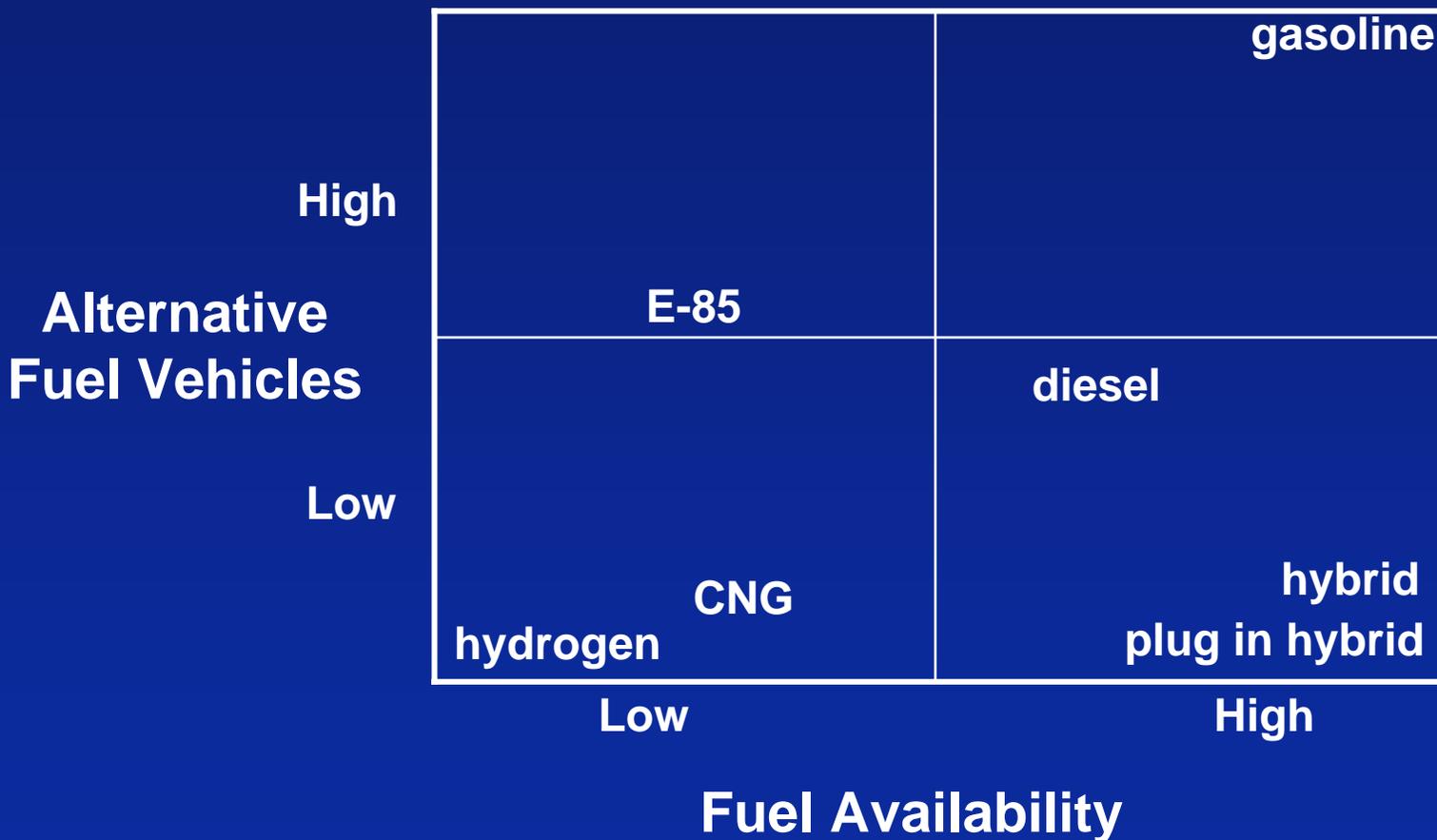
179,300 Vehicles
including
163,700 right hand drives and 15,600 minivans





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Projected Future (2010-2018) Availability





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Planning for the Future

- **Keep a variety of options open**
 - **Continue to test vehicles to understand fuel issues in USPS delivery environment**
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