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South Africa's Johannesburg sees second CNG gas station opening

A second compressed natural gas fuel station has been opened in greater Johannesburg as part of a project involving the South African government and an Italian company that aims to get South African public transportation, including buses and taxis, to move to a cleaner and less expensive fuel, according to industry sources.

The station's opening is being coordinated by CNG Holdings, according to industry sources. Officials from CNG have been quoted as saying that by using CNG instead of traditional fuels, public transportation units can save of up to 40% in fuel.

CNG Holdings was established in 2008 to supply natural gas as an alternative energy source in South Africa. The CNG group was at the time awarded a tender by the South African government to investigate the feasibility of establishing natural gas bus and taxi filling stations in the country and so far two stations have opened.

CNG is a partner of the South African government's Industrial Development Corp. as well as to BRC Gas Equipment, a trademark owned by Italy-based MTM, which manufactures and markets automotive LPG and CNG components, according to CNG Holdings website. CNG Holdings is a distributor for BRC in Africa, the company said.

Another CNG partner is Egoli Gas which buys natural gas from Sasol and then distributes to home and businesses in Johannesburg, according to the main web page of CNG Holdings.