

16 September, 2021

## **IVECO Australia increases focus on alternative technologies as part of restructure**

*Last month's organisational restructure at IVECO Australia, has seen a new position created that will help facilitate the company's transition towards more sustainable transport solutions beyond its current Euro6 model range.*

The appointment of a dedicated resource is part of a broader global initiative, and has seen long-time senior IVECO Product Manager, Marco Quaranta, take on the role of Strategic Projects and Industry Relations Manager with a focus on propulsion.

In his new position, Mr Quaranta will be heavily involved in setting up the necessary internal infrastructure and associated support systems to back IVECO's future alternative fuel ambitions.

He will also act as a resource for IVECO customers who are looking to take their first steps in reducing the carbon footprint of their fleets. Additionally, Mr Quaranta will play a role in meeting and liaising with key industry stakeholders and advocacy groups to further promote IVECO's alternative fuel capabilities.

Mr Quaranta said that there is growing interest from customers wanting to know more about their options when it came to alternative fuels for commercial vehicles.

"During my short time in the role, I've already had many discussions with customers who are curious of their options to reduce the impact of their vehicles beyond what Euro6 can deliver," he said.

"Alternative fuelled vehicles are not new to Australia with some manufacturers including IVECO having offered natural gas-powered vehicles quite some time ago. Unfortunately this fuel never reached its full potential here due to the lack of refuelling infrastructure," he said.

"At the time, the interest in natural gas was being driven by high diesel prices, but once prices stabilised, CNG and LNG-powered trucks became less attractive, and demand dropped.

"This latest interest in alternative technologies is stronger and not born from a desire to save costs, but rather, to reduce emissions – that's the driving factor."

Mr Quaranta said that natural gas remained an opportunity in the alternative fuels space, as it emitted far less particulate matter and virtually zero nitrogen oxides compared to diesel, however the market interest seemed to be also oriented towards electric propulsion.



PRESS RELEASE

“In Australia, natural gas vehicles are still a viable consideration – they offer a reasonable range and would work well with the right infrastructure in place,” he said.

“If the source of the gas comes from landfill capture, this adds an additional ‘green’ element, making the fuel even more attractive. There are several biomass facilities operating in this country and IVECO is in a strong position to reintroduce gas-powered trucks and vans here if demand grows.

“In Europe thanks to more government support for operators and refuelling facilities, natural gas-powered vehicles are popular and make up a considerable portion of the overall commercial vehicle fleet,” he said.

In relation to electric vehicles technology, Mr Quaranta said the technology was rapidly advancing.

“I believe that electricity is the fuel of the future for commercial vehicles. For local pick-up and delivery, refuse collection and other back-to-base applications it’s battery power, but ultimately for longer distances it will be hydrogen technology that’s used to recharge electric fuel cells,” he commented.

Mr Quaranta said that behind the scenes IVECO Australia was advanced in evaluating and implementing the necessary processes, infrastructure and support services required to introduce alternative-fuelled models, including products available to it under its joint venture with Nikola Corporation.

“With our IVECO joint venture partner Nikola BEV / FCBEV, heavy-duty solutions are becoming a reality, in fact our production facility in Ulm, Germany recently completed a 12-month phase of design, testing and validation on the models and prototype vehicles are at an advanced stage of development.

“Bringing the vehicles down under will be the easy part; the challenge is the preparation for the launch. Fortunately for IVECO, we have a highly experienced, local engineering and validation team with the skills and link to our central engineering teams to test and develop customised solutions for the unique ANZ market requirements.

“IVECO ANZ will continue to explore and invest in this space with our local engineering skills seeking to leverage Universities, alternate fuel bodies and the broader network to add value to the alternative propulsion push for the region.”

Readers wanting to learn more about IVECO and Nikola's joint venture Ulm facility, should view the video should visit the Nikola YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=X460hadKXcQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X460hadKXcQ)

## **IVECO Trucks Australia**

*IVECO Trucks Australia is a proud manufacturer and importer of commercial vehicles spanning the light, medium and heavy duty truck segments and also has a range of small to large buses. The commercial vehicle range includes on and off-road models from car licence vans through to prime movers rated up to 90 tonnes GCM and buses from 11 seats to 61 seats. The IVECO range of vehicles includes locally designed and manufactured models and is complemented by a range of imported models which are all designed and tested to meet Australia's demanding operating requirements. The IVECO product range is extensive and includes Daily E6, Eurocargo, ACCO, Stralis, X-Way, Trakker and Astra models. IVECO vehicles are supported in Australia by a dedicated network of over 60 dealerships and parts and service outlets strategically located nationwide, offering aftersales services that include extended warranties, breakdown support packages and personalised maintenance contracts.*

*For further information about IVECO Australia: [www.iveco.com.au](http://www.iveco.com.au)*

*For further information about IVECO: [www.iveco.com](http://www.iveco.com)*

### **Media Enquiries:**

David Garcia

IMAB2B

T: 61 409 805 389

Email: [david@imab2b.com](mailto:david@imab2b.com)