

Cavan Haulier Aims for Low Carbon Future by Becoming First Irish Company to use Greener Natural Gas Trucks, Supported by Ulster Bank's Lombard

- Virginia International Logistics first in Ireland to use Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) trucks.
- [CNG trucks emit](#) up to 99% fewer emissions than equivalent petrol or diesel vehicles.
- Supported by Ulster Bank's Lombard, the company is also investing in the country's first CNG refuelling infrastructure in Dublin and Virginia.

1st July 2019: Virginia International Logistics has become the first Irish company to invest in a futureproof fleet of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) trucks, a greener technology which produces far fewer harmful emissions than its petrol and diesel counterparts.

Supported by Ulster Bank's asset finance division, Lombard Ireland, the family-owned business is building a more sustainable transport solution with five new CNG trucks – plus 15 more on order – and two CNG refuelling stations in Dublin and Cavan, which will help lower running costs and further reduce its carbon footprint.

Commenting, Ray Cole, Transport Director at Virginia International Logistics, said:

"We've grown our business substantially since we bought our first truck back in 1982, with our drivers now covering over 12 million kilometres across Europe every year. However, as we expanded we became more aware of the negative impact our business was having on the natural environment and we started to look at meaningful ways of reducing our carbon footprint.

These 20 CNG trucks represent the biggest leap forward yet for our company in achieving that goal. I want to thank Ulster Bank's Lombard for making it possible for us not only to grow, but to grow in the right way."

According to Gas Networks Ireland, which is tasked with developing the technology in Ireland, CNG trucks [emit](#) 99% less particulate matter, 80% less Sulphur Dioxide, 70% less Nitrogen Oxide, and a fifth less Carbon Dioxide than equivalent petrol or diesel vehicles.

Currently used in over [27 million vehicles worldwide](#), Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is just that - natural gas that is compressed to fit in the fuel tank of a Natural Gas Vehicle. However, the CNG refuelling infrastructure in Ireland is in its infancy, with [plans](#) to have 70 high capacity fast-fill stations installed on the motorway network within ten years.

Commenting, Colm Furlong, Head of Asset and Invoice Finance at Ulster Bank's Lombard, said:

"We are delighted to team up with Virginia International Logistics and help them fulfil their ambition of being the best partner in green logistics. For us, it's a great source of pride to be involved with a company that is leading the way in Ireland with new technology that will ultimately benefit us all.

That's the significant advantage of asset finance - it gives companies the power and flexibility to forge a sustainable path forward and Ulster Bank's Lombard stands ready to support any company willing to make the leap towards a greener future."

This CNG investment by Virginia International Logistics forms part of the company's long-term strategy aimed at reducing its carbon footprint.

In addition to providing eco driver training and implementing fuel and tyre management techniques, the company won Environmental Haulier of the Year at the Fleet awards in 2015 and The Green Transport Award at the Green Awards 2019.

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NOTES TO THE EDITOR

About Ulster Bank's Lombard

Asset Finance gives businesses the power and flexibility to help build a sustainable future - making their money work for them. As part of Ulster Bank and as specialists in asset finance, Lombard Ireland is committed to giving businesses the ability to source, acquire and manage assets that help them achieve their aims. Specialist teams work with companies to gain a clear understanding of their specific funding, equipment and cash flow requirements and can offer support across a wide variety of industries.

About Virginia International Logistics

Virginia International Logistics is a family owned business located in Maghera, Virginia, Co. Cavan, Ballycoolin, Co. Dublin, Ireland & Tamworth UK. With over 30 years' experience in Temperature Controlled, Dry Freight and Containerised Transport, Virginia International Logistics currently offers Groupage, Part & Full-Load services within a variety of industries including Foods (FMCG), Electronics, Pharma and Manufacturing.