

Ratthakan Tunmak 2009: Opinions of Taxi Driver on Using Compressed Natural Gas at Suvarnabhumi International Airport. Master of Arts (Social Development), Major Field: Social Development, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Sirikorn Kanjanasuntorn, M.S. 164 pages.

The objectives of this research were two folds. Firstly, it aimed to study the basic factors of taxi drivers, the information about taxis, their knowledge and understanding about compressed natural gas, the support to install compressed natural gas unit, channel to receive information about compressed natural gas. Secondly, it investigated the independent variables affecting the opinions of taxi drivers on using compressed natural gas. Samples consisted of taxi drivers in Krung Thep Maha Nakhon that have been registered with PTT Public Company and the Suvarnabhumi Airport for passenger service. This is a survey research that utilized questionnaires to gather the data concerning the opinion on compressed natural gas. Samples were selected by accidental sampling. The data were analyzed with descriptive statistics. Stepwise multiple regression analysis was performed to establish relevant independent factors. The level of statistical significance was set at 0.05

The findings of the study indicated that the opinion of the taxi drivers was at a moderate level, with moderate knowledge and understanding concerning compressed natural gas. Their support for the installation of compressed natural gas unit was also moderate. Most of the samples received the information about compressed natural gas from their colleagues. Testing of independent variables affecting the taxi driver's opinion on the use of compressed natural gas in general, consisting of their basic factors, information about taxis, knowledge and understanding about compressed natural gas, support for compressed natural gas unit installation, and channel to receive information about compressed natural gas, revealed three predictive independent factors. They were support for the installation in general (26.6%), taxi rental rates (2.2%), and support from PTT (1.2%). All three independent variables could predict thirty percent of the opinion.

From the above findings, it is recommended that should the number of compressed natural gas taxis be increased, the relevant agencies should increase the number of compressed natural gas stations as well as to improve the convenience of filling up the gas. Support for compressed natural gas usage should be provided continually. Radio spots, billboards, and colleagues are the major media for access to more knowledge and understanding about compressed natural gas.

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Student's signature

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Thesis Advisor's signature

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