SmartWay Charter Partner FedEx Express Saves Fuel, Improves Sustainability

“FedEx Express is proud to have assisted EPA in the development of SmartWay. SmartWay has raised the awareness of fleet operators about their options to increase fuel efficiency and to provide support in implementing improvements in surface transportation. As a Charter Partner, FedEx participation in SmartWay has provided a public forum to highlight our success in significantly improving fleet efficiency, while continuing to provide the outstanding service for which FedEx is known.”

Mitch Jackson, FedEx Corporation
Staff VP Environmental Affairs and Sustainability

Significant Environmental Accomplishments
FedEx Express first set a goal to improve the fuel efficiency of its FedEx Express vehicles back in 2008. Using 2005 baseline data, FedEx Express reports a 27% improvement in fuel economy across its U.S. fleet through fiscal year 2013 (FY13). FedEx also set a goal to reduce carbon dioxide emissions intensity in global aviation. Through FY13, FedEx reports it has achieved a reduction of 18% from its 2005 baseline.

How FedEx Express Does It
FedEx Express follows a three-tiered strategy to improve the fuel efficiency of its ground fleets: Reduce, Replace and Revolutionize. This holistic approach to fleet management allows it to develop technologies for the future, maximize the efficiency of the fleets it operates today, and has saved 95 million gallons of fuel as of FY13, according to FedEx. The company’s progress towards its fuel efficiency goal for the vehicle fleet is the result of several initiatives:

- By the end of FY13, FedEx Express reports it increased the size of its advanced alternate-energy vehicle fleet to include over 550 hybrid-electric vehicles and electric vehicles. These vehicles have traveled more than 15 million miles in revenue service. The FedExExpress fleet also includes 100 CNG and LPG vehicles.
- FedEx Express has accelerated its efforts in fuel conservation through the purchase of vehicles with right-sized engines like the Sprinter vans manufactured by Mercedes-Benz. FedEx currently has more than 10,000 such vehicles in service, comprising more than 35 percent of its U.S. pick-up and delivery fleet. Each Sprinter-type van is about 70 to 100 percent more fuel-efficient than the original truck it replaces.
- Since 2011, FedEx Express has incorporated almost 2,300 composite-body Reach vehicles into its global fleet. The lower weight design, along with the engine, allows for a 35 percent reduction in fuel usage over most conventional walk-in vans.
- Matching the correct vehicle or aircraft to the right route; maximizing efficiency.
- Instituting operational procedures to reduce fuel use and incorporating education on these procedures into its training programs.

FedEx is committed to the SmartWay goals of improving fuel efficiency and reducing the intensity of its greenhouse gas emissions. The results, over the course of our participation in the SmartWay Program, are tangible savings related to fuel expenses and improved sustainability for both FedEx and our customers.