Case Study – Refuse



AT A GLANCE

CUSTOMER

LA Sanitation

LOCATION

Los Angeles, California

CHALLENGE

LA Sanitation operates a fleet of more than 800 refuse trucks serving more than 750,000 customers throughout the city. Running for more than 15 hours a day with frequent stops, the company was looking for a turnkey solution that provided precision engine cooling with less maintenance.

SOLUTION

LA Sanitation worked with Horton to implement the Horton RCV250, which cools an engine by the precise amount needed, thus reducing the number of full-speed fan engagements necessary for optimal engine performance.

RESULTS

With the RCV250 system, LA
Sanitation experienced a noticeable
decrease in noise volume and cab
heat – a welcome improvement
to both drivers and mechanics.
Additionally, the product has
eliminated the need for fan drive
maintenance.

PRIMARY CHOICE FACTORS

Quiet while running

Decreased cab heat

Increased uptime

Horton's reputation for technical excellence and collaboration

Los Angeles Sanitation Increases Uptime and Driver Comfort with Horton RCV250

Background



Located in the second largest city in the nation, LA Sanitation is the lead agency for the city's environmental programs and initiatives. Dedicated to sustainably managing waste water, storm water and solid waste, the organization includes a fleet of more than 900 vehicles, including 800 refuse collection trucks and 160

street sweepers. Serving more than 750,000 customers throughout the city, LA Sanitation's refuse trucks run long hours, often working from 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. the next day.

With seven maintenance locations across the city, LA Sanitation collects over one million tons of refuse annually. As a direct result of the fleet's heavy workload, it's imperative that all of the organization's trucks have maximum uptime and support driver comfort, with significant attention being focused on noise reduction and cab temperature.

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"I would be interested in purchasing [the RCV250] for our new trucks, but I wasn't able to spec this fan drive as an option. At this point, if I could have, I more than likely would have spec'd [the RCV250] for the 168 new trucks we'll be getting."

John Ferris
 Director of Fleet Maintenance

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Challenges

Fifteen-years ago, LA Sanitation began working with Horton and was using on/off fan drives. Looking for a solution that reduced liner replacement, the organization later switched to Horton two-speed fan drives. Recently, the company began to install the RCV250 in select trucks to address issues associated with frequent fan clutch engagement due to a constant need for engine cooling.

In a city where the average temperature is approximately 75°, excessive heat generated by the trucks' engines became a major problem, as the temperature in the cabs could reach uncomfortable levels, ultimately affecting driver comfort and performance. Noise was also an issue for drivers as the fan drive was engaging frequently to ensure proper cooling.

Solution

Horton's Sales and Application Engineering teams worked with LA Sanitation to install the drive using an RCV250 retrofit kit, as the product provided the same specifications as original equipment models and allowed for decreased downtime.

After implementing the RCV250 system in five of its refuse collection trucks with the highest complaints of cab heat and clutch failures, LA Sanitation began seeing immediate results. Engineered to be a variable-speed solution rather than providing one or two speeds, the drive reduced cab heat by providing precise engine cooling, cooling the engine by the exact amount needed for optimal

"Our technicians are excited to see viscous clutches on trucks. It's almost been a year [since we installed the Horton RCV250] and we haven't had a problem."

John Ferris Director of Fleet Maintenance

operation of all systems. Additionally, implementation of the RCV250 minimized noise due the reduction of full, fan-speed engagements.

As the RCV250 requires no friction liners, uptime was significantly

improved. Furthermore, by running through the middle of the drive, the control harness is protected from frayed or broken drive belts.

Results

Running in tandem with the trucks' Cummins Westport IFLG engine



and Horton HS11 fan, LA Sanitation experienced notable results after installation of the Horton RCV250 including a significant reduction in noise. Additionally, since installing the Horton drive, clutch failures have been eliminated as liner wear is no longer a factor.

Remarkably, although the retrofitted trucks have only been a part of the fleet for slightly less than a year, the RCV250 system has eliminated the need for maintenance and has significantly extended the life of the fan drives.

