DEUSA Fleet Success Stories: Pitt Ohio, IN

Location: Indianapolis, IN
Fleet type: Less-Than-Truckload (LTL), Class 7 Electric Box Trucks

Narrative: PITT OHIO, a privately owned transportation and supply chain management company headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has established itself as a leader in corporate sustainability within the trucking industry. Recognizing the critical need to mitigate environmental impact, PITT OHIO has proactively adopted innovative technologies, including the integration of electric vehicles into its delivery fleet and the implementation of renewable energy solutions at its facilities.

In a significant step towards its sustainability goals, PITT OHIO began integrating electric vehicles into its operations in 2023. The company introduced its first two Class 7 Volvo VNR Electric box trucks to its fleet based in Cleveland, Ohio. This initial deployment was followed by the strategic addition of two Class 7 Freightliner eM2 electric box trucks in 2024, further expanding their electric vehicle footprint. In 2025, PITT OHIO continued its commitment to electrification with the purchase of a Mack MD Electric vehicle. These Class 7 electric trucks are specifically utilized for local and regional freight delivery routes, demonstrating the company's practical application of zero-emissions technology in its daily operations.

A key aspect of PITT OHIO's sustainability strategy is the synergy between its electric fleet and renewable energy infrastructure. The company's Parma, Ohio, terminal serves as a prime example of this integration. This facility is equipped with a patented on-site renewable energy microgrid that harnesses both solar and wind power generation. By charging its electric vehicles with electricity generated from these renewable sources, PITT OHIO achieves truly zero-emission transportation for the freight handled through this terminal.

Several key factors have driven PITT OHIO's commitment to electrifying its fleet and investing in renewable energy:

- **Demonstrating Environmental Stewardship:** By actively reducing its carbon emissions, PITT OHIO aims to be recognized as an environmental leader within the highly competitive transportation sector in the Mid-Atlantic and Midwest regions.
- **Achieving Long-Term Operational Efficiency and Savings:** The company anticipates significant reductions in fuel expenses and lower maintenance demands associated with electric vehicles compared to traditional diesel-powered trucks, contributing to greater long-term financial stability.
- **Responding to Evolving Customer Expectations:** PITT OHIO acknowledges the increasing demand from its customer base for environmentally responsible supply chain solutions and seeks to partner with them in achieving their own sustainability targets.

- **Driving Technological Advancement within the Organization:** By embracing and implementing cutting-edge electric vehicle technology, PITT OHIO positions itself at the forefront of innovation in the trucking industry, continuously evaluating and adopting advancements to enhance operational performance.

PITT OHIO's Vice President of Vehicle Maintenance has publicly commented on the rapid advancements in electric vehicle technology within the commercial trucking sector. Notably, he has highlighted the significant improvements in battery range and payload capacity of electric trucks, bringing them closer to the operational capabilities of their conventional diesel counterparts. This progress reinforces PITT OHIO's confidence in the long-term viability and scalability of electric vehicles within its fleet.

Outputs & Outcomes: PITT OHIO's proactive approach to sustainability has garnered significant recognition within the industry. The company has been honored with numerous prestigious awards, including multiple EPA SmartWay Excellence Awards for outstanding environmental performance and consistent recognition as a Top Green Fleet by *Heavy Duty Trucking* magazine. These accolades underscore the effectiveness and impact of PITT OHIO's sustainability initiatives, enhancing its brand reputation and attracting environmentally conscious customers. The deployment of electric trucks, particularly when powered by on-site renewable energy, directly translates to tangible reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from the company's operations.

Looking forward, PITT OHIO remains committed to its sustainability journey. With the installation of an All-Electric Orange EV e-Retriever, the company plans to meticulously track the performance and operational data of its electric vehicle fleet over the coming years. This ongoing evaluation will inform future decisions regarding the potential for further expansion of electric vehicle adoption across its broader operational network.

Best Practices & Lessons Learned:

1. **Fostering Strategic Collaborations:** PITT OHIO's successful integration of electric vehicles and renewable energy infrastructure has been significantly facilitated by establishing strong partnerships with key stakeholders. These include collaborations with leading truck manufacturers such as Volvo and Freightliner to acquire and implement electric vehicle technology, as well as engaging with renewable energy providers and organizations like Clean Fuels Ohio to navigate funding opportunities and best practices.

2. **Adopting a Holistic Approach to Sustainability:** PITT OHIO's commitment to sustainability extends beyond simply electrifying its fleet. The company has strategically integrated electric vehicle deployment with investments in renewable energy generation at its facilities. This comprehensive approach ensures that the environmental benefits of electric vehicles are maximized by utilizing clean energy sources for charging.
3. **Implementing Data-Driven Operational Planning:** To optimize the utilization of its electric vehicle fleet, PITT OHIO leverages historical route data and advanced telematics. This data-driven approach allows for the careful selection of delivery routes that align with the current range capabilities of the electric trucks, ensuring operational efficiency and minimizing any potential disruptions.