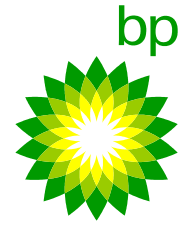


Fuel News

LPG Q & A



What is LPG?

LPG is liquefied petroleum gas consisting of propane, butane, butylenes and propylenes. It is a liquid that quickly converts to a gas at ambient temperature.

What is it used for?

It can be used as automotive fuel (autogas) or for heating applications using burners, in this application it is normally sold as Propane or Butane because each gas requires different types of burners, in cars it can be used as up to a 50:50 mix of propane or butane or as pure propane.

How is it made?

LPG is separated from gas at natural gas fields or manufactured in refineries from the processing of crude oil to make fuel.

What are current issues with LPG?

Investigations into issues with using LPG in cars and domestic applications have recently been carried out.

The West Australian Department of Consumer and Employment Protection found that oily deposits in vehicle converters were most likely associated with accumulation of rubber fuel hose plasticizer material which had leached into the liquid gas.

This material was damaging converters and causing operability issues.

A number of recommendations have been made of which the most relevant to consumers are

- **Specifying a non extractable hose for carrying LPG liquid**
- **Designing fittings to minimise contact of residual material with rubber components**

The investigations have found that while LPG at the producer can contain a small amount of residue it is believed that this amount is not sufficient to cause problems in the equipment within the normal service life of the equipment.

**For further information, please call the BP Lubricants and Fuel
Technical Helpline 1300 139 700 local call
Or visit www.bp.com.au/fuelnews**