

## **4REFUEL**

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## **10 WAYS TO TRIM YOUR FUEL COSTS**

(Langley, British Columbia)---With the exception of labor, fuel represents the most costly expense for businesses in the transportation, logistics, construction and other fuel-dependent industries. As fuel prices continue to rise, everyone is looking for ways to reduce fuel expenses. 4Refuel, a leader in fuel management services, recommends the following tips to reduce fuel consumption and costs:

1. **Train and educate drivers** – Hard acceleration, speeding and idling are the biggest causes of fuel waste. Initiate a training course for drivers. Reward participation and efficiency and encourage seasoned drivers to participate in regular refresher courses.
2. **Decrease idling** - Letting an engine idle more than three minutes causes expensive damage that harms efficiency, shortens engine life and increases maintenance costs. Excessive idling can add 50 percent to fuel costs and shorten the life of engine oil by 75 percent. Initiate a campaign to reduce idling and reward participants.

3. **Start off slower** – Jackrabbit starts save less than three minutes during 60 minutes of driving but end up using 40 percent more fuel and increase toxic emissions by 400 percent.
4. **Slow down** – It's not only dangerous, but speeding wastes fuel. Trucks traveling about 75 mph use 50 percent more fuel to cover the same distance than when going slightly over 60 mph. They also emit 100 percent more carbon monoxide and 50 percent more hydrocarbons.
5. **Lose weight** – Carrying excess weight places unnecessary strain on a vehicle's engine and greatly affects its fuel efficiency. Removing as little as 100 pounds from a vehicle can significantly improve gas mileage.
6. **Use a Fuel Management system** – Fuel management systems are the most powerful way to lower fuel costs and increase fleet productivity. Systems range from basic onsite refueling and automated fuel tracking to telematics, which measures overall fuel efficiency, vehicle performance, fuel waste due to idling, speeding, etc., and in turn, identifies critical areas to improve efficiency and reduce fuel costs and emissions.
7. **Upgrade your fleet** – Whenever possible, invest in modern, fuel-efficient vehicles. Today's modern diesel engines are far more fuel-efficient and perform better with current diesel fuels such as ultra-low sulphur diesel and biodiesel.
8. **Tune-up vehicles regularly** –A well-maintained vehicle performs better on the road, decreases maintenance costs and improves fuel efficiency.
9. **Pump it up** – Proper tire inflation not only improves gas mileage (save as much as two weeks worth of fuel per year) but also yields other benefits including improved vehicle and braking performance and increased tire life.
10. **Implement advanced mobile asset management technology** – This technology, particularly for fleet vehicles, extracts valuable information such as total miles traveled, average speed and engine efficiency. The advanced technology can also help drivers and operators optimize routes with route

planning and mapping software that can help eliminate thousands of unnecessary miles per week.

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