

Eliminating Idling of Emergency Response Vehicles at Hospitals

Problem:



Ambulances require energy to maintain onboard power equipment, charge batteries, and provide a proper temperature environment for life saving medicines, patient transport and personnel operations. To provide this energy, ambulances often idle their engines for extended periods of time after delivery of patients to hospital emergency departments. The exhaust fumes from idling ambulances can infiltrate hospital emergency rooms, thereby exposing patients, staff and visitors to toxic and carcinogenic air contaminants.

Solution:

Currently available technology provides a clean and efficient way to meet these energy needs without running the ambulance's engine by 1) allowing ambulances to plug directly into the electric grid, and 2) supplying heated and cooled air to ambulance interior compartments.



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Funding Opportunity:

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), through its Clean Diesel Grant Program, will provide funding and technical support to install idle-reduction technology to eliminate the need for emergency-response vehicle idling at a hospital.

