



Immediate Release

Towngas Launches Low Carbon Action! Green Christmas HK's First-Ever Zero Emission Human-Powered Christmas Lighting

(24 Nov 2009) The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited (Towngas) launched Low Carbon Action! Green Christmas Exhibition with a specially designed Human-Powered Low Carbon Christmas Lighting, leading a zero emission green Christmas for Hong Kong. The latest initiative compliments "Towngas Low Carbon Action! Campaign, encouraging Hong Kong people to join hands in reducing carbon emission by one million tonnes.

Every year, commercial buildings in Hong Kong have impressed the public with spectacular Christmas lightings, however, little do they realise that these glamorous lighting effect produce substantial carbon emissions. A survey conducted by Green Association in 2008 revealed that during the festive season of Christmas, commercial buildings along the Victoria Harbour used up to over 85,500 light bulbs for Christmas lighting. Assuming each light bulb contributes to 25W of energy, for duration of 6 hours every night, carbon emission during Christmas was estimated to be as high as 404 tonnes, equivalent to the carbon emission of 1,600 double-decker buses.

To make this Christmas special, Towngas has set up Hong Kong's first Low Carbon Human-Powered Christmas lighting at New World Center in TST. With participation of the general public, this unique environmental Christmas lighting will be able to generate dazzling light through solar power and human power by cycling. The public are welcome to join us to produce lighting of low carbon that shines through the spectacular skyline of the Victoria Harbour.

The lighting ceremony of this low carbon Christmas decoration held on 24 Nov 2009, was officiated by Mr Leung Chun Ying, Non-official Member of the Executive Council Convenor; Ms Charlene Choi (Ah Sa), famous artist and Towngas Low Carbon Christmas Ambassador; Mr James Kwan, Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of Towngas; Mr Edwin Lau, Director of Friends of the Earth (HK) and Mr Raymond To, Director & Acting General Manager, KLPS Group Ltd. Apart from the green Christmas lighting, Towngas also displays Christmas trees produced from 6,000 reused CDs. Other low carbon elements include a splendid Christmas ornament made out of reused tires with low carbon living tips. The public can also

join the low carbon Christmas initiative by pledging through the Low Carbon Action! Website, www.towngas.com/lowcarbonaction on the spot.

Mr James Kwan said, "As Hong Kong's leading supplier of low carbon clean energy, Towngas takes environmental protection as our key corporate responsibility. From design to execution, our Low Carbon Action! Christmas lighting follows towards zero carbon emission. This environmental friendly installation is also a channel for the public to actively take part for a greener future. By cycling 15 minutes, one can generate 12W of energy, enough to charge up a cell phone or this low carbon Christmas billboard lighting. Not only does the public have a chance to experience in person low carbon living, they also help contribute to the Towngas Low Carbon Action! Campaign which aims to reduce carbon emission by 1 million tonnes."

Mr Leung Chun Ying, Convenor of Non-official Members of the Executive Council, expressed, "Climate change is the greatest challenge facing mankind today. Every individual and corporation has the responsibility to tackle it realistically and sensibly. As one of the world's major cities, Hong Kong should take concrete steps towards creating a low carbon, low pollution and low energy-consumption society and economy. Towngas has fully demonstrated how enterprises can encourage the public to lead a low carbon life through launching low-carbon Christmas lights. Towngas sets a fine example for others to follow."

Mr Edwin Lau, Director of Friends of the Earth (HK) said, "This zero carbon emission Christmas lighting installed by Towngas has provided the public with a chance to contribute to the environment directly and personally. Based on the calculation of 3,000 light bulbs used in traditional Christmas lighting running 5 hours a day for 42 days, up to 9,582kg of CO₂ is generated. This zero carbon emission Christmas billboard is certainly a plus to the environment."

According to figures from the Environmental Protection Department, the average annual carbon emission of Hong Kong people per person amounts to 6.7 tonnes. The below chart shows the carbon emission rate between traditional Christmas lighting design and Towngas low carbon Christmas lighting design:

Items	Emission Rate	Items	Emission Rate
Traditional Christmas	9,582kg	Solar-powered and human-	0 kg
lighting and Christmas tree		powered bike generated LED	
lightings (Calculation		light Christmas tree.	
based on 5 hours/day for 42		}	
days)			

Turning on traditional	11.4 kg	Human powered bike running	0 kg
Christmas lighting and		for 15 minutes	
Christmas tree lightings for			
15 minutes			
A 7 feet high traditional	48.3 kg	A Towngas Christmas tree made	0 kg
Christmas artificial tree		by reused CDs (over 2000 CDs)	

Effective December, those who cycle 15 minutes at the Towngas Christmas lighting will be rewarded with a badge and a stamp entitling them a 5% discount on a Low Carbon Christmas menu served at Towngas Avenue. With 4 stamps collected, the discount will go up to 20%.

The "Low Carbon Action!" zero emission Christmas lighting will be on display for a month starting from 24 November at New World Center. Details as follows:

Date: 24 Nov 2009 to 3 January 2010

Location: New World Center Front Entrance

Opening hours for cycling: Monday to Friday

12:00nn - 3:00pm 6:00pm - 11:00pm

Weekend and Public Holiday

11:00am - 11:00pm

Key features of Townags Low Carbon Action! - Green Christmas Exhibition

Zero emission Christmas lighting

Utilising power generated from solar panel and human-powered bike at the same time. Starting from early November, Towngas has specially set up energy saving bikes at its headquarters for staff to cycle to save energy for the use of the Low Carbon Christmas Lighting. Towngas has joined hands with Friends of the Earth (HK) to install solar panel at the back of the Christmas decoration to ensure sufficient supply of energy during the exhibition period.

Christmas trees made of reused CDs

This unique Christmas tree sees the effort of Towngas staff. Within a short period of time, they have collected nearly 6000 old CDs to create this Christmas tree. Frame of the tree is made by four tonnes of reused metal frames collected from pervious trade exhibitions! The CDs will be sent to Friends of the Earth (HK) for other purposes after the exhibition.

^{*} Towngas Customer Service Hotline: 2880 6988

Ornaments made of reused tires

This special Christmas ornament is made of reused tires, with various low carbon

living tips. Public can learn interesting low carbon living tips while enjoying the

beauty of the Christmas settings.

Mini parade of festive low carbon tips

This low carbon tips festive float has already made their appearance at the opening

ceremony of Towngas Low Carbon Campaign. Transformed into low carbon

Christmas festive bicycles, these displays serve to carry out the mission of low carbon

and demonstrate the power of reused materials.

Action now to join our low carbon force

The Towngas Low Carbon Christmas zone is specially designed with a Christmas

internet kiosk. The public visiting our low carbon Christmas zone can get access to

the Low Carbon Action! www.towngas.com/lowcarbonaction website and register on

the spot to join our mass pledge online. Join us now to realise our target of reducing

carbon emission by 1 million tones.

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