

Know Your Options

Alternatives to idling a truck's engine in order to provide A/C and heat now exist. Such options allow drivers to be comfortable and safe while saving money on fuel and reducing emissions from idling.

Options include:

- Automatic Engine Shut Down/Start Up
- Direct Fired Heater
- Auxiliary Power Units/Generator Sets
- Truck Stop Electrification and On-Vehicle Electrification

Automatic Engine Shut Down/Start Up

An automatic engine shut down/start up system controls the engine start and stop based on a set time period or ambient temperature, and other parameters (e.g., battery charge). The application for ambient temperature addresses the issue of cab comfort. For example, a driver can set the system to turn on the engine and heat when the outside temperature reaches 65° F. For trucks, these devices are available from some of the engine manufacturers and cost between \$900 - \$1,200. For locomotives, one company manufactures such a product, though it is best used to control locomotive idling in warmer climates where the need to idle is discretionary. Estimated cost: \$7,000 - \$15,000.

Direct Fired Heater

These small, lightweight devices provide heat only. They cost about \$1,000 and are available at the engine manufacturer level.

Auxiliary Power Units/Generator Sets

These small, diesel-powered engines (5 to 10 horsepower) are installed on the truck to provide air conditioning, heat, and electrical power to run appliances.

Truck Stop Electrification and On-Vehicle Electrification

Electrification refers to a technology that harnesses an electrical system to provide the truck or locomotive operator with climate control and other needs, eliminating the need to idle the main engine. It can be a stand-alone system or it can include a combined on-board and off-board system.



IdleAire units supply air conditioning, communications, and entertainment services to trucks and eliminate the need for prolonged engine idling.

Credit: IdleAire Technologies

[For More Details on the Options Above....](#)

Funding Opportunities

If you are thinking about installing idle reduction technology on your truck, or building idle reduction infrastructure, financial assistance is available.

The [Texas Emissions Reduction Plan](#) program is a statewide program that provides financial assistance to businesses for projects to improve air quality in the State's non-attainment areas (including Dallas-Fort Worth).

Funding opportunities are also available to replace, repower and retrofit heavy-duty diesel vehicles and equipment.

Please contact Kim Affat at the City of Dallas, Office of Environmental Quality at [214-670-6971](tel:214-670-6971) with questions, or for application assistance.

To obtain an application and for a schedule of application assistance sessions, please visit the [Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#) web site.