

**(Madison, Wisconsin, May 28, 2015)** – Leonardo Academy has been awarded \$900,000 from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to help reduce emissions from diesel engines in EPA Region 6, which includes Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. EPA Region 6 awarded the grant as part of the National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program.

Reducing emissions from diesel engines is currently one of the most important air quality challenges facing the country. Even with EPA's more stringent heavy-duty highway and non-road engine standards set to take effect over the next decade, millions of diesel engines already in use will continue to emit large amounts of nitrogen oxides, particulate matter and air toxics, which contribute to serious public health problems. This EPA grant program provides great incentives that accelerate the reduction of emissions from existing diesel engines.

Leonardo Academy will use the grant to support clean diesel projects in Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana that significantly reduce emissions. Using these funds, Leonardo Academy will retrofit 25 school buses with exhaust controls and will replace six delivery vehicles with compressed natural gas (CNG) alternatives. It is estimated that the projects will reduce over 3,400 tons of carbon dioxide, 170 tons of nitrogen oxides, and seven tons of particulate matter. These strategies will also reduce fuel usage and maintenance cost.

“We are extremely proud to receive this grant,” stated Michael Arny, President of Leonardo Academy. “Leonardo Academy is dedicated to developing sustainability strategies for companies and organizations that employ environmental and social equity strategies to drive economic success. Leonardo Academy believes that our extensive experience in helping organizations understand, quantify, manage, and report their overall sustainability will help enhance the goals of our partners locally, as well as on a regional and national basis.”

#### Upcoming Grant Opportunities

Public and private organizations owning diesel fleets and equipment are invited to sign up to be considered for inclusion in Leonardo Academy proposals for future funding opportunities.

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