



Press Information

Last-Mile Delivery Fleet Quality Custom Distribution Takes Delivery of Volvo VNR Electric

Quality Custom Distribution (QCD), a national food service logistics provider, recently took delivery of a Volvo VNR Electric—the first zero-emission, battery-electric truck to be deployed in QCD's fleet of more than 700 vehicles. The Volvo VNR Electric model from Volvo Trucks North America will begin running last-mile delivery routes to restaurants and coffee stores throughout Southern California from the company's warehouse in Fontana, California.

The Volvo VNR Electric Class 8 truck being leased to QCD is part of the Volvo LIGHTS project, an innovative collaboration between Volvo Trucks North America, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) and 13 other organizations, to develop a blueprint to successfully introduce battery-electric trucks and equipment into the market at scale.

“We are excited to partner with QCD as they begin their fleet electrification journey. Like so many of our customers, QCD depends on their vehicles to deliver every day, without compromise and without exception,” said Peter Voorhoeve, president, Volvo Trucks North America. “Through the Volvo LIGHTS project, we have given consideration to every possible resource fleets need to make a successful transition to electric vehicles. By creating a holistic electrification ecosystem—from accessing grant funding to the purchase of the truck to establishing a charging infrastructure plan to providing service and support after the sale—Volvo Trucks is ensuring fleets like QCD are supported every step of the way.”

Volvo Trucks North America began taking customer orders for its VNR Electric model on Dec. 3, 2020. Production of the Volvo VNR Electric is slated to begin in early 2021 at the company's New River Valley manufacturing plant in Dublin, Virginia.

A Golden State Foods (GSF) company, QCD provides custom distribution services to thousands of America's most iconic restaurants. QCD currently operates a fleet of 700 Class 8 tractors, more than half of which are Volvo VNR and VNL models. Each year, QCD makes over one million last-mile deliveries from its 26 temperature-controlled distribution centers, averaging more than 35 million miles on the road annually. GSF is one of the world's largest diversified suppliers to the food service and retail industries.

“Being a Volvo Trucks customer for over thirteen years, we knew we could expect the same level of safety, comfort, and performance from the VNR Electric as we've always had with the traditional VNR,” said Mike Douglas, senior director of strategic procurement, QCD. “We are continually looking for ways to help our customers reduce their supply chain emissions and are excited to offer a battery-electric last-mile solution that can deliver. We look forward to putting the Volvo VNR Electric to work in our fleet and to more zero-emission deployments going forward.”



Between its Fontana and Los Angeles facilities, QCD operates 70 trucks. Leased from Volvo Trucks' dealer Gateway Truck & Refrigeration located in the St. Louis area, the Volvo VNR Electric will be operating various nightly last-mile delivery distribution routes, each totaling nearly 100 miles roundtrip. One of seventeen VNR Electric trucks leased to fleet customers through the Volvo LIGHTS initiative, the Volvo VNR Electric will help to evaluate battery-electric trucks in a variety of operating conditions. The firsthand operational insight gained will enable QCD to identify the ideal routes in which to integrate additional battery-electric trucks for their future operations.

"Gateway Truck & Refrigeration is proud to be Volvo Trucks' first dealership outside of California to deliver a VNR Electric to a fleet customer," said Zach Wagner, principal for Gateway Truck & Refrigeration. "Our team is looking forward to gaining direct feedback on how battery-electric trucks perform on various QCD delivery routes. This insight will enable us to more effectively guide our other fleet customers throughout Missouri and Illinois in their procurement decisions."

To help QCD maximize vehicle uptime, TEC Equipment, Volvo Trucks' largest West Coast dealership and a Volvo LIGHTS project partner, will provide contracted maintenance services through its Fontana location.

"Successful deployment of zero-emission vehicles such as QCD's are needed to achieve our clean air goals," said Wayne Natri, South Coast AQMD's executive officer. "By fleets proactively making the switch to cleaner vehicles under the Volvo LIGHTS project, we are reducing air pollution in our local communities."

Volvo LIGHTS (Low Impact Green Heavy Transport Solutions) is part of [California Climate Investments](#), a statewide initiative that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy and improving public health and the environment—particularly in disadvantaged communities.

To learn more about the Volvo LIGHTS project, visit www.lightsproject.com.



CAPTION: Chris Jagnow, regional fleet manager, Volvo Trucks North America and Tony Borgic, new truck salesman, Gateway Truck & Refrigeration, delivered Quality Custom Delivery's (QCD) first Volvo VNR Electric to Michael Douglas, senior director of strategic procurement, QCD, and Blake Bunte, general manager, QCD Fontana.



CAPTION: Quality Custom Distribution (QCD) will utilize the Volvo VNR Electric for last-mile delivery routes to restaurants and coffee stores throughout Southern California from the company's warehouse in Fontana, California.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

High-resolution images associated with this press release and others are available at www.volvomediabank.com.

Volvo Trucks provides complete transport solutions for professional and demanding customers, offering a full range of medium to heavy duty trucks. Customer support is secured via a global network of dealers with 2,300 service points in more than 130 countries. Volvo trucks are assembled in 13 countries across the globe. In 2020 approximately 94,000 Volvo trucks were delivered worldwide. Volvo Trucks is part of Volvo Group, one of the world's leading manufacturers of trucks, buses, construction equipment and marine and industrial engines. The Group also provides complete solutions for financing and service. Volvo Trucks' work is based on the core values of quality, safety and environmental care.

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