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Brooklyn, New York – June 9, 2008

Green Machine: Habana Outposts 1965 Lincoln Convertible Runs On Vegetable Oil

Keeping with his commitment to educate and inspire, Sean Meenan, artist and owner of Habana Outpost, New York's First Solar powered restaurant (his/its/their?) very own zero emissions vehicle

In an effort to address the advantages of alternative fuels and get people talking about the technology, Sean Meenan owner of Habana Outpost and Café Habana, decided to set an example, and send a message to loyal customers by commissioning a 1965 Lincoln convertible that runs on discarded vegetable oil. Rudolph Diesel designed diesel engine in 1893, he thought he had designed something that farmers could fuel themselves using peanut oil. Proving that old can be new again and keeping with Habana Outpost mission of sustainability, the vehicle runs on oil that restaurant produces.

How: A company, owned by Bob Seigworth in Iowa, transformed the classic car. They took out the gas compression engine, replaced the old engine with a diesel engine of a 1997 truck, and then retro-fitted it to make it a vegetable oil run vehicle. The oil gets poured into a compartment in the back. "We actually start it on diesel, just for a few seconds while it warms up the grease, and heats it up, and then it just automatically switches over to the grease, and it will run on grease," says Meenan. Everyone has a connection with an old car like the Lincoln, and not having to buy fuel isn't the only advantage, Sustainable Vegetable Oil emissions have no sulphur and lower carbon monoxide. SVO vehicles, like the Lincoln, are often referred to as the zero emission alternatives.

Habana Works is a 501(c)(3) organization that provides free programs that educate, unite and engage community members around improving human and natural habitats. Created by artist and restaurateur Sean Meenan, these programs use art, architecture and design as tools to engage and instill a greater understanding of the community's role in the betterment of the planet. Current Programs include Urban Studio Brooklyn (USBK), Habana Labs, Kid's Corner and Garden Works.

Habana Labs is a program dedicated to sustainable energy. As part of Habana Works the Lab serves as a community resource with sometimes high-tech and always hands-on projects. The Lab aims to reach a larger audience about making smart energy decisions.

For more information:

Habana Outpost: www.HabanaOutpost.com

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Habana Labs: www.habanalabs.org

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