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Title: Test Methods – Where We Are and Where Are We Going

Abstract: This presentation will discuss the current state of standardized test methods for automotive applications with emphasis on fuels and lubricants. Traditional test methods developed by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), National Fluid Power Association (NFPA), International Organization of Standards (ISO), and others have rightfully stressed repeatability and reproducibility of the test methods. This traditionally has included maintaining constant temperature, no vibration, constant flow – basically parameters good for the laboratory but not real world.

With the common rail fuel system becoming prevalent in light- and heavy-duty automotive applications, greater awareness on filtration performance is being emphasized. These new systems cannot tolerate the water and solid contamination of the previous fuel systems.

The users are requesting more from the suppliers. They are requiring new methodologies that better simulate real-world operating parameters and conditions. This paper will discuss some of these methodologies, both standardized and non-standardized methods being used by the automotive industry. This paper will also touch on some of the user inputs and what they are requesting from the suppliers.