

A Newsletter for Fleet Emissions Inspection Facilities and Inspectors

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2008 Inspection Reminder

As reported in the last issue, most 2003 and older vehicles must be inspected and original equipment Alternative Fueled vehicles 2005 and older must be inspected after January 1, 2008. If you have any questions about inspection requirements, please call VEI at (602) 207-7000 or (520) 628-5651.

OBD Not For HD Vehicles

Fleet operators in metro Phoenix and Tucson are currently able to test 1996 and newer fleet vehicles using the On Board Diagnostic (OBD) test. While this test is useable for all OBD equipped light duty vehicles with 1996 and newer model years, it can not be used for heavy duty vehicles.

Some newer heavy duty vehicles (greater than 8,500 lbs. gross vehicle weight) are marginally equipped for OBD. Often these vehicles are marked as being "OBD ready". However, be aware that the law does not currently allow for the testing of these vehicles using OBD. All vehicles 8,501 lbs. and heavier must be given the applicable tailpipe test.

OBD Test Procedure

When performing an OBD test, following the proper procedure is important to the process. R18-2-1006.E.3 states the OBD test shall consist of:

- A visual inspection of the MIL function
- An electronic examination of the OBD computer by connecting an OBD II scan tool to the data link connector and interrogating the OBD system to determine vehicle readiness status, Malfunction Indicator Light (MIL) status, and presence of diagnostic trouble codes.
- Gas cap test

Determining test results:

- a. If the OBD Data Link Connector (DLC) is not firmly attached, cannot be located or is inaccessible, the vehicle shall be **rejected**.
- b. If the vehicle is not OBD readiness exempt, and the readiness monitor check reports more than two unset readiness monitors for a Model Year (MY) 1996-2000 vehicle or more than one unset readiness monitor for a MY 2001 or newer vehicle, the vehicle shall be **rejected**.
- c. If the vehicle is OBD readiness exempt, and the readiness monitor check reports excessive unset monitors, the vehicle shall be tested without regard to unset monitors.
- d. If vehicle computer communication cannot be established, (see i), and the vehicle is known to have been manufactured with a communication defect, the vehicle shall pass if the requirements of the MIL check, and (see g and h), are met.
- e. If the vehicle meets all requirements (see f, g, h, i, and j), and also meets the gas cap requirements, the vehicle shall pass the test.
- f. If the DLC is accessible, not damaged, and not tampered;
- g. after the OBD II scan tool is connected to the data link connector, the MIL illuminates when the ignition key is turned to the on position;
- h. the MIL is not illuminated after the engine is started and runs for a few seconds;
- i. the OBD II scan tool indicates that vehicle computer communication has been established by displaying the test menu;
- j. the MIL status check reports that the MIL is commanded off.
- k. If a vehicle fails to meet any requirement (f, g, h, i, or j), or the gas cap requirements, the vehicle shall fail the test.

The test is probably easier to perform than it is to read. It is important, however, to be sure the MIL is not illuminated with the engine running, and that the scan tool shows the system is communicating with the tool.

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OBD Test Procedure *(continued from front)*

Following testing, if repairs are necessary, it is very important to be sure the readiness monitors are reset before running the test sequence again. More important is to not let a customer's vehicle go back to an official emissions test station without first assuring that the monitors have reset. Remember, if too many monitors are showing a "Not ready" status, the vehicle will be rejected.

Second Quarter Training Schedule

MARCH 2008	
Fleet	Dates
Government and Fleet Shop	4-5
Dealers	11-12
Diesel	6
Tucson	25-26
APRIL 2008	
Fleet	Dates
Government and Fleet Shop	8-9
Dealers	15-16
Diesel	10
Tucson	29-30

Specialty Classes

Does your administrative or sales staff understand the emissions inspection process? Do your technicians need specialized training in OBD, IMI47, Diesel requirements or other emissions related topics? How can we help? VEI training staff can customize specialty seminars for your needs. They can be offered at our location or yours; just call Adrion Osborne, (602) 207-7011 or e-mail him at osborne.adrion@azdeq.gov. Adrion and his staff will work with you to do the emissions related training you need or desire.

MAY 2008	
Fleet	Dates
Government and Fleet Shop	6-7
Dealers	13-14
Diesel	8
Tucson	20-21
JUNE 2008	
Fleet	Dates
Government and Fleet Shop	3-4
Dealers	10-11
Diesel	5
Tucson	24-25