

A Newsletter for Fleet Emissions Inspection Facilities and Inspectors

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Fleet Compliance By Internal Audits

In order to maintain a fleet inspection permit, your facility must undergo the process of periodic quality assurance (compliance) audits. ADEQ performs these audits on either scheduled or unscheduled visits, depending on the particular type of audit. The Department encourages fleets to conduct internal audits as a way to promote continuous fleet compliance. No one likes to fail an audit, and non-compliance requires valuable time and resources, both to document and to correct.

At the conclusion of a fleet emissions inspection, fleet agents can use the checklist to guide their staff through an internal audit. Performing periodic internal audits will ensure that everything is in order and make passing a state audit virtually assured.

Here are a few tips to avoid common violations:

- All fleet inspectors are required to complete the "Fleet Vehicle Inspection Report/Monthly Summary" and the "Certificate of Inspection" at the time of inspection. Waiting until the end of the day (or later) only encourages errors, or uncompleted paperwork. Failure to perform the required inspections does occur, and the absence of an emissions compliance document will delay title and registration processing and presents a poor public image. Spot check your inspectors.
- Remember that the permit is for the inspection of vehicles owned or leased by the fleet station. A vehicle that has been sold and delivered to a retail purchaser no longer belongs to the fleet and must be inspected at a state station.
- Permits and inspector licenses must be displayed for easy reference. Inspectors whose licenses have expired can't inspect vehicles, and fleet stations

whose fleet agent certification has expired cannot operate.

- All inspection equipment must be on-site and calibrated according to the manufacturer's recommendation; exhaust analyzer and opacity meter calibration checks must be recorded on the "Calibration History Log."

Customized Seminars

As mentioned in our last "Fleets in Review," Vehicle Emissions is creating training/information seminars tailored for individual fleet facilities. The one-to four-hour seminar will be presented at your facility, on any emissions-related topic your staff needs. If you would like to arrange for a seminar at your facility, please contact Adrion Osborne at (602) 207-7011 or osborne.adrion@azdeq.gov.

ADEQ Web site

There are some exciting new things on the ADEQ site that you and your customers should know about. When you access the Web site, click on the "Vehicle Emissions" icon on the right of the screen. Once there, scroll down to the "New Service Improvements" area and check out the video enhanced "Current Wait Times."

When a vehicle must be taken to the official inspection station, first click on the wait times display and SEE how things look at the nearest stations. Each inspection station now has cameras showing the queue and a numerical wait time below the image.

Another new feature is "Look Up Your Recent Emissions Testing History." This feature provides the ability to look up the inspection history of a vehicle by simply typing the vehicle identification number and the most recent inspection results are displayed. You will also get the previous inspection if it was within the last two years.

Do you use the drive trace to help diagnose emissions failures? The ability to print the most recent IM147 drive trace is now right on your computer.

Access is by typing the license plate or VIN, and the second-by-second trace will be displayed and may be printed. This is a valuable diagnostic tool that most of your customers do not understand, so now you have easier access to it.

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ADEQ Web site *(continued from front)*

While you are looking at the Web site, scroll down to the “Technical” section. There you can find the emissions statistics for the past year, IM147 Standards, and other useful information. Finally, scroll to the bottom of the page and find the links to numerous sites of interest to the vehicle emissions professional. Find links to U.S. EPA, Berkeley Labs (Report on Arizona Effectiveness), California Air Resources and others.

Class Schedule

AUGUST	
Fleet	Dates
Government and Fleet Shop	7-9
Dealers	14-15
Diesel	16
Tucson	21-22
SEPTEMBER	
Fleet	Dates
Government and Fleet Shop	11-13
Dealers	18-19
Diesel	20
Tucson	25-26

Tucson Fleets Move to OBD

On May 1, Governor Napolitano signed into law Senate Bill 1531. As a result, fleet operators in the Tucson area will begin testing 1996 and newer light duty fleet vehicles using on-board diagnostics (OBD). This should be good news for private and government fleets. The law does not apply to dealer fleets.

Vehicle Emissions training staff has begun to train for OBD inspections as fleet inspectors renew their licenses. Fleets must obtain the necessary equipment: SAE J1979 compatible scan tool and gas cap tester capable of performing the 60cc leak check. Inspectors must update their licenses to include OBD, and fleets will need to make application for the OBD permit.

Light duty gasoline powered vehicles (gross vehicle weight of 8,500 pounds or less) manufactured from 1996 are equipped with OBD II diagnostic capability. The fleet inspector need only connect his scan tool to the DLC (diagnostic link connector) and record the required data. OBD is a quick, accurate process for determining emissions compliance.

While OBD should be a time-saving inspection process for fleet operators, it will not be an option. All 1996 and newer fleet vehicles equipped with OBD II must be inspected using this protocol beginning in January 2008. Fleet inspectors will automatically be trained in OBD when they renew. Fleet owners must make application for an OBD Fleet Inspection Permit, and have the necessary equipment by then. Fleets which have the equipment now may begin using OBD as soon as they receive their permit. For further information, or to make application for an OBD inspection permit, contact Connie Huebner or Mark Pilgrim at (520) 628-5651.