merCruiser
STERN DRIVES & INBOARDS

service bulletin

TO: SERVICE MANAGER ☐ TECHNICIANS ☐
PARTS MANAGER ☐

No. 95-16

Low Sulfur Diesel Fuels

Models

MerCruiser MCM/MIE D7.3L Diesels

Condition

Low sulfur diesel fuels can lack the lubricity (lubrication) needed to keep the internal parts of the fuel system, primarily injection pump and fuel injectors from working correctly. In some countries pleasure boats are required by law to run diesel fuel number 1 which is a very low lubricity diesel fuel.

In cold weather climates, diesel fuel number 2 is sometimes blended with other additives to keep the fuel from jelling. These additives can also reduce the lubricity of the fuel. The damage that can be caused by these fuels, or fuels with additives, is not covered by the MerCruiser Diesel Limited Warranty.

Recommendation

Low sulfur diesel fuels require additives to preserve the fuel lubricity. If the fuel being used is known to be a low sulfur fuel or a winter blend, an additive should be added to put the lubricants back into the fuel. Stanadyne makes an additive called Performance Formula just for this application. Performance Formula can be obtained from ADS(Association of Diesel Specialists) shops around the world.

If the engines are operated in a country where by law only diesel fuel number 1 can be used, there is a kit available from Stanadyne for the injection pump called an Arctic Kit. This kit could be installed by an ADS shop, at the owners expense, to alleviate problems that would be attributed to the lack of lubrication in the fuel.

The Performance Formula could also be used, in conjunction with an Arctic Kit, for added injection pump protection.

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