

Winter Diesel Fuel Recommendations

Operating diesel powered equipment in Michigan requires extra care and maintenance during winter months. Wesco Energy is committed to providing you with the necessary information and products needed to protect against the cold elements. We will again be offering to you winter additives which contain anti-gelling and de-icing agents that are designed to protect your fuel and to keep your equipment functional. And again, we wanted to send you this informative note about what you can do to help with winter protection.

Since the change from low sulfur diesel fuel to ultra low sulfur diesel in 2006 proper tank and equipment maintenance has become much more important than ever before to ensure you are getting the most from your fuel. To help with this, we are sending you some important tips to help increase your awareness of what you should be doing during this time. It is important to note that a lot of fuel-related cold temperature problems can be traced back to moisture and ice and not necessarily gelling.

Diesel Fuel Cold Weather Performance Tips:

- *Vehicles/Equipment*

1. Filter Changes: A contaminated filter will not allow diesel fuel to freely pass and will eventually shut down equipment. Fuel filters should be replaced to ensure that fuel flow is at the maximum.
2. Filter Micron: It is critical to use the manufactures maximum allowable filter size. The larger the filter micron the better in order to address the performance concerns associated with ULSD (Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel).
3. Water Separator: Check daily—any water build-up should be drained immediately.
4. Tank bottoms: Tank bottoms should be drained to remove water and any contaminants.
5. Fuel Caps: Check for rubber seal--- they should fit tightly
6. To reduce moisture condensation, fuel tanks should be filled daily at the end of the day or run when the equipment fuel is warm as opposed to when it is cold.
7. Units that are equipped with a plug in feature should ensure the unit is plugged in when it is not in use
8. Allow the truck to warm up prior to leaving the yard

- *Fuel Storage Tanks*

1. Tank Bottoms: Water paste should be used to check for the presence of free water--- any water bottoms exceeding 1 inch should be drained or pumped out.
2. Fuel pump/dispenser filters: Filter should be changed at the beginning of the winter season using a filter element with the appropriate micron size.
3. Fuel deliveries: Every effort needs to be made to keep the valves clear of snow/ice
4. Vents: Every effort must be made to not allow rain or snow to enter the tank
5. **Pre-treatment of winter additives to the existing product in tank prior to delivery is critical to winter protection.**
6. Tanks can and should periodically be checked and cleaned with a recommended cleaning agent. The cleaner the tank, the cleaner the fuel, the easier to treat and the better efficiency and winter protection you get from your fuel.