

Technical Article #109

Best Practices at Big 3 Calibration Lab



Best Practices

Diesel engines for medium duty pick-up trucks are calibrated and tested for durability as part of on-going quality control at the one of the Big 3 Auto Manufacturers. In 2006, a Power Train Engineer, one of the skilled trades, and the Leader of Test Mechanics in that

facility, began looking for a new transfer pump for antifreeze and oil. For many years, the standard had been to use a rotary crank pump to transfer antifreeze from a 55 gallon container to a bucket, and then to carry the bucket over to the day tank floor which serviced the test engines with the antifreeze. When the anti-freeze in the day tank was low, the technicians would refill it using the rotary pump which was not only hard to turn, generating worker injuries, but also short lived with frequent replacements. With a cost of \$75.00 for each pump and replacements four times a year, the Engineer decided there had to be a better way. Introduced to GoatThroat Pumps, which claimed high durability - 10 year life expectancy, efficient fluid transfer, no spill or leaks of the fluid, and ease of use, Shultz acquired one. Still using the same pump after 2 years, the Engineer is very satisfied with its performance. He has found that this new transfer method allows the fluid to flow



as soon as the Technician opens the tap, and stops when closed, making for an efficient liquid transfer system. There are no more worker injuries from this task, and a substantial cost savings in not replacing pumps every few months. Recently, he acquired an additional GoatThroat Pump which is operated pneumatically, and he is equally satisfied with this one.