



Press Release

Continuous Oil Monitoring System Measures Real-Time Oil Wear in Test Lab Engines

Palo Alto, CA - May 5, 2003 - The Oil Insyte in-line oil monitoring system from VSI, Voelker Sensors Inc. is designed for continuous monitoring of oil additive performance, oxidation and soot contamination in R&D test lab engines. This technology provides fast results by measuring oil breakdown as it happens, independent of the base type or additive package. Specifically designed to fit test facility engines, the system allows easy set-up and operation. No standards or calibration are required.

The system ensures minimum exhaust emission requirements through real-time measurement at temperatures up to 150oC. An Oxidation System independently measures additive depletion and oxidation. A Soot System measures soot contamination. The system can directly compare additive package performance under actual test conditions without operator intervention and can be used in compliment with oil sampling and analysis or alone. The Oil Insyte system provides assured operation with an innovative technology grounded on fundamentals that utilize the electrical properties of an insoluble polymeric bead matrix. The sensing unit can measure the change in the beads electrical properties, which result when their interactive behavior adjusts to a change in the solvent properties of the oil.

The Oil Insyte system includes a sensor element (a consumable due to irreversible contamination by degraded oil), a mechanical interface and a signal conditioning unit. The mechanical interface consists of a modified drain plug that secures the sensor element in the motor oil. The signal conditioning unit is composed of a simple circuit board with a microprocessor that conditions the signal from the sensor element. Values for additive depletion, oxidation, soot contamination and temperature are individually displayed on an LCD.

Voelker Sensors, Inc. is a sensor manufacturer headquartered in Palo Alto, CA. VSI develops and markets in-line fluid sensor systems that continuously monitor the integrity of the fluid. VSI systems measure water/soot contamination, additive depletion, oxidation, temperature and level of lubricating oil for the industrial equipment, transportation, stationary refrigeration and transformer markets.

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