

### Safe Working Practices:

#### SWP- 07 Working with Diesel Engines

Before doing any type of work you must carry out an assessment of the task to be undertaken. This will include the equipment to be worked on, the task itself, Personal Protective Equipment requirements, the work area and environment, plus the tools and equipment required to carry out the job safely. Consult your team leader if you are not satisfied the job can be carried out in a safe manner

Diesel engine driven machines can, if poorly handled or maintained, be dangerous, the training received by technicians working on this kind of truck will provide the knowledge necessary to avoid accidents and at the same time maintain the machine in good working order, however, to ensure continued safe working with diesel powered machines the following general advice and instructions will be helpful.

#### **GENERAL SAFETY**

- 1.0 Before starting repairs that do not require battery power, switch off at the ignition lock and disconnect the battery.
- 1.1 Avoid contact with hot exhaust components and radiators. Never remove the radiator cap whilst the engine is hot.
- 1.2 Keep yourself, loose clothing and long hair away from moving parts when the engine is running.
- 1.3 Fuel is delivered for combustion under pressure, it could, for example, be forced into the flesh of your hand if you were to hold it in the way of an injector under test, or at the point of a leak with the engine being cranked over or actually running. Avoid contact with fuel under pressure.
- 1.4 Repetitive or prolonged contact may cause dermatitis. Apply barrier cream, or wear gloves, whilst working on diesel components.
- 1.5 Good personal hygiene is essential at all times.
- 1.6 Diesel exhaust fumes are dangerous they contain amongst other things carbon monoxide and various particulates. Do not run the engine for long periods without proper exhaust ventilation. Where possible use a LEV connected to the exhaust to extract fumes. Where an LEV is not available the engine should only be run if there is adequate ventilation in the area. Avoid working in a Maintenance pit as fumes are heavier than air and will settle in pit increasing the risk of inhalation and asphyxiation.
- 1.7 Waste or used oils must be disposed of in an environmentally acceptable manner.
- 1.8 Always seek managerial permission for the use of any disposal facility available on the customers site.
- 1.9 If the site visited has provision for the safe disposal of waste oils and permission is obtained to use the facility, then this will be the preferred option.
- 1.10 Waste oil should be collected in a suitable container and returned to Leicester or to a convenient resident technician site with suitable provision and customer agreement.
- 1.11 Oils and greases should never be poured away on waste ground or down any kind of drain

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- 1.12 Oil contaminated wipes and similar materials should be treated in the same way as waste oils and disposed accordingly.

#### **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS**

- 2.0 See Safety & Environmental Manual procedure “Employment of Young Persons” for precise definitions on children and young persons.
- 2.1 “Children” will not be involved with tasks directly involving diesel engines or diesel fuel. They may be allowed to observe such operations and work practices, but must take no active part, be kept at a safe distance and under the constant supervision of a competent person.
- 2.2 “Young Persons” may be allowed work involving such engines and fuel subject to the conditions imposed above and only when under the constant supervision of a competent person.