Southwest Research Institute ®

Engine Lubricants Research Department

Update on SwRI's IR&D Program To Study Engine Oil Formulation Effects on Catalyst Poisoning in an Engine Dynamometer Test

Presented to the GF-5 Emissions System Compatibility Improvement Team by Scott Ellis



Recap of IR&D Project

- Test engine 2002 Chevrolet Malibu 3.1L V6
- 240-hour test duration with 10 oil changes
- Test catalyst 900 c.p.i., Pd/Rh washcoat, 0.6 L vol.
- **Catalyst conversion efficiency measured in-situ before** and after test
- 0.1 wt. % Phos, non-detergent oil results very similar to those presented to ESCIT by Afton in August 2006



Implemented Afton's Test Operating Conditions For Catalyst Aging

- 2000 rpm
- 65.5 kPa MAP
- Externally heated oil sump to 150 °C
- Catalyst inlet temp ~530 °C
- Target PCV rate ~113 L/min (found this to be unnecessary)



Revised Test Operating Conditions For Catalyst Aging

- **GM not supportive of modified PCV system**
- Reverted back to stock PCV configuration
- Re-ran 240-hr test on Oil 33 (0.1 Phos, nondetergent)
- **Obtained nearly identical catalyst deactivation**
- **Oil consumption was more variable** \bigcirc
- Future tests to be run with fixed orifice \bigcirc



SOT Comparison of Modified vs. Stock PCV





SOT Comparison of Modified vs. Stock PCV





EOT Comparison of Modified vs. Stock PCV





EOT Comparison of Modified vs. Stock PCV





Oil Consumption Measurements





SOT Comparison of Oil 33 vs. Oil 35





SOT Comparison of Oil 33 vs. Oil 35





EOT Comparison of Oil 33 vs. Oil 35





EOT Comparison of Oil 33 vs. Oil 35





Oil Consumption Measurements





Summary Data





Future Plans

- Continue Test Matrix
 - 1. Oil 33 (0.1 Phosphorus, no detergent)
 - 2. Oil 35 (no Phosphorus, discrimination)
 - **3.** Modern formulation with conventional ZDP
 - 4. Modern formulation with 'low impact' ZDP
 - 5. Oil 33 (repeat-check)

