

Filter Cross Referencing and Interchangeability

There are numerous ways to determine which filter is correct for an application. Most of these are accurate and helpful. Some however, are inaccurate and outdated. The use of the incorrect filter could prove extremely detrimental to the performance and overall life of the system it is installed on. The following will be helpful in assuring the correct filter is placed in service on the system it is designed for.

The best source of accurate, up-to-date filter information is the application section of the filter manufacturer's online or current printed catalog. Some filter manufacturers offer market specific or specialty catalogs that provide application and interchange information targeted at a particular market segment. Some examples of these are the marine and agricultural industries. Catalogs not only provide application information but also technical product information and competitive part number information. Because catalogs contain such a volume of information, always be sure you are using the most current catalog available. Never use old, outdated printed catalogs. Performance, application requirements and interchange information are constantly being reviewed and updated. For the most current application information, refer to the manufacturers' online catalogs which are updated continuously.

Another popular method for determining what filter goes on a particular application or system is interchanging filter manufacturer's part numbers. While this practice is quite common and virtually all filter manufacturers provide competitive part number information, the practice of simply interchanging a part number and not checking the exact **application** is based on a crucial assumption. This assumption is: the filter currently in service on an application is the correct one. As this is not always the case, the consequences of interchanging an incorrectly applied filter can be catastrophic contributing to or resulting in poor system performance, system damage and/or complete system failure. Interchanging filter part numbers is strictly for reference purposes only. The filter manufacturer's current online application catalog should always be consulted to ensure the correct filter is used for the application involved and corresponds to the original equipment manufacturer's part number.

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Other sources for determining filter application information include manufacturer's online contact, technical service hotlines, fleet surveys, matching physical dimensions, thread sizes, gasket dimensions, unsubstantiated personal knowledge, etc. Of all these, direct contact with the filter manufacturer and current fleet surveys completed by a filtration expert would be considered the most accurate and helpful. Due to today's precise design, construction and component performance requirements, the use of the other sources mentioned to determine a filter application could result in filter failure, performance complaints and/or system failure and down time.

Filtration product manufacturers supply a vast array of filters specifically designed for an application. The complete protection of systems by filtration is more critical than ever. Consequently, the selection of the correct filter for a specific application is essential. If there is ever any doubt as to which filter to use, don't guess! ASK! Contact the filter manufacturer, their field representative or their authorized distributor for the help needed.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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