

IEEC Studies Ways To Reduce Car Exhaust

Fifteen research projects have been blueprinted by the Inter-Industry Emission Control (IEEC) program to speed reduction of exhaust emissions from gasoline-powered engines.

The IEEC program is a \$7,000,000 cooperative undertaking launched last April by Ford Motor Company and Mobil Oil Corporation. Since then five other major petroleum companies—American, Atlantic Richfield, Marathon, Sohio and Sun—have joined the three-year search for a fuel-engine system that will eliminate automotive emissions as a problem. IEEC is one of the largest private research ventures ever undertaken.

The 15 projects—13 of which are under way—include studies of high-efficiency reactors, fuel additives, exhaust recirculation, induction system modifications, experimental gasolines, and fuel-and water-injection systems.

WILLIAM D. DINES, Ford vice president-Manufacturing Group, said, "The project is now fully staffed, projects are being assigned to member companies and most of the research

equipment and test facilities are installed."

An early success from the program is the development of a method for calculating evaporation losses from fuel tanks and carburetors. Using the method, mathematical models have been developed to predict effects of design changes in fuel and fuel systems on carburetor and fuel-tank evaporation losses.

This development, and other results as they occur, will be made available to industry.

Among other activities reported in a quarterly report: --Some 60 fuel additives have been screened in test engines made available by Ford, and some leads have been generated toward combustion improvement.

--Experimental exhaust recirculation systems are being evaluated for performance, durability, and drivability.

--An experimental catalyst used in a chassis dynamometer study of a Ford V-8 engine has shown favorable readings on hydrocarbon and carbon monoxide emissions.

--Flame and non-flame reactors are being tested, with favorable initial readings.

in combination with fuel or lubricant-modifying additives.

--Disposable catalysts in converter systems—perhaps in combination with lead traps and separators.

--Semi-permanent catalysts for use with a modified gasoline.

--High-efficiency reactors. Plans stressed that all approaches are being given equal emphasis until research and engineering data have been developed and evaluated.

"The paramount goal of all studies is a system that will substantially reduce emissions at minimum cost to the consumer with little effect on engine performance," he said.

"The program has not yet progressed to the point where we know what combination of

approaches will best reach the program target. The goal is to use this systems-engineering approach to make automobiles that are virtually smog-free compared with other sources of urban pollution. At the same time, the vehicles must meet customer criteria for performance, cost, comfort and convenience."

Ford is project manager for IEEC. Interested companies other than the present participants may join under certain conditions.

Pesticides, Heat Danger To Lake

Michigan Conservation Director Ralph A. MacMullan has called for a tough line to be taken against highly-persistent pesticides and urged that a hard look be taken at thermal pollution and oil discharges by ships to keep Lake Michigan from being turned into a modern-day "dead sea."

Ask Doctors To Join In Health Talks

Michigan doctors should play an increasingly active role in the direction of community health agencies, a University of Michigan health specialist says. In this way, a network of practitioners can be coordinated with the services offered by the agencies.

Coordination is especially important for 6 or 8 cylinder cars. Easily mounted.

He went on to say there are safer chemicals such as Malathion and Methoxychlor which, in most cases, provide acceptable substitutes for what have been labeled as "the dirty seven."

MacMullan reported that Michigan fisheries men are concerned about the possible impact that pesticides could have on coho salmon.

RECENT ANALYSES OF DDT residues in coho salmon and their eggs from Lake Michigan showed concentrations in the fish flesh of from one to five parts per million and in the eggs from one to three parts per million.

Also, some coho fry hatched from eggs taken from Lake Michigan salmon last fall are showing typical symptoms of pesticide poisoning and the young fish are dying in larger than normal numbers in the department's hatcheries.

There are other possible reasons for the coho die-offs, including virus diseases and the deficiency of iodine or thiamin in the tiny fish. Tests are being made in an effort to uncover the cause.

"We cannot say for sure that DDT contamination is detrimentally affecting our Lake Michigan coho salmon," explained the Department's Director, "but we are much concerned."

He estimated that DDT concentrations in Lake Michigan are close to the danger point as they might affect coho survival, adding that "we most certainly cannot stand a buildup" of these chemical levels.

THE CONFERENCE'S delegates were also advised by MacMullan that they should give serious thought to the threat of thermal pollution posed by the reportedly planned operation of 10 giant nuclear stations along Lake Michigan's shores by the mid-1970's.

He explained that these thermoelectric plants require enormous volumes of water for cooling and, in the process, heat that water to high temperatures before discharging it. One moderate-size plant under study would use half a billion gallons of water each day and raise the discharged water's temperature 28 degrees.

Although there are questions to answer on this score, MacMullan drew from his background as a professional biologist to predict that any permanent warming of Lake Michigan would have widespread ecological effects.

Spring Lawn & Garden Sale

In a speech to the Michigan Health Planning Conference Dr. Vlado A. Getting of the U-M School of Public Health outlined the growth of federal involvement in community health matters.

He said it evolved from early federal concern with the health of military forces, Indians, and the merchant marine. But recent legislation has opened vast fields of state and local health problems to federal control.

DR. GETTING said the new laws intend to give the consumer "a major voice in both state and area-wide health plans," particularly when these plans are supported by federal funds. He advised doctors to "seek a place on boards of health, boards of directors, and advisory committees."

He made particular reference to the 1966 Comprehensive Health Planning Act (PL 89-740), but he said the trend began with the adoption of the Social Security Act of 1935 "when the federal government initiated its present march into the arena of health services."

Transplant? Put It On Bracelet

TURLOCK, Calif. — Medic Alert Foundation is making it simpler for a dying patient to donate his heart for transplant to another might live.

For 14 years, the non-profit organization has distributed bracelets to persons suffering particular medical problems to aid treatment in case of emergency. Now the foundation is providing special bracelets for those wishing to donate an organ after they die.

THE BRACELETS, inscribed with Medic Alert's insignia, list the wearer's transplant desire and the telephone number of the foundation's headquarters here in Turlock.

Hospital personnel finding the bracelet on a person near death are instructed to call Medic Alert any time of the day or night, and the organization immediately would notify the nearest relatives to obtain their permission for a transplant if the patient dies.

E. J. Korvette

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