Incorporating On-Board Diagnostics into Fleet Preventive Maintenance Practices (Paper 15-3474)

Tara Ramani, Texas A&M Transportation Institute Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting January 12, 2015



Background

 Texas Department of Transportation's fleet – on-road and off-road vehicles and equipment





Research Question

- Can we enhance fleet management through the use of OBD data
 - –Cost savings
 - Better preventive maintenance practices



Our Approach

- Provide "proof of concept"
 - Focus on a single category of vehicle
 - Oil change practices
 - Statistical approach based on engine data collection and oil sampling
 - Identify if predictive intervals can improve practices and save money



Multidisciplinary Research Team

- Texas A&M Transportation Institute
 - Michael Kader, Tara Ramani, Jeremy Johnson, Joe
 Zietsman
- Texas A&M University Mechanical Engineering
 Dr. Timothy Jacobs
- Texas A&M University Statistics
 - Dr. Clifford Spiegelman



Project Activities





Engine Operations and Oil Life

Decreases Oil Life	Extends Oil Life
Short Trip Intervals	Long Trip Intervals
Excessive Idling	Continuous Intervals (Steady RPM)
Extreme High Temperature Operation	Operating at Moderate Temperatures
Low Temperature Operation	Good Maintenance Procedures
Poor Maintenance	





Selected Oil Parameters

- Viscosity Performance Main source of lubrication.
- Total Base Number Alkaline additives that neutralizes contaminating acids.
- Additives Designed to increase lubrication, inhibit corrosion and clean engine. Includes Zinc, Phosphorus, Boron, Calcium, Magnesium, etc...
- Wear Metals High levels inhibit lubrication. Includes Copper, Iron, Aluminum, etc...
- Insolubles Percentage of solids in oil test sample

Degradation

Viscosity Performance

Additives Concentration

Total Base Number

Contamination

Oxidation/Nitration

Metals Concentrations (Wear Particles)

Total Acid Number

Insolubles



Selected Engine Parameters

- Focus on dynamic engine parameters
 - Engine speed (RPM)
 - Engine load
 - -Oil and Coolant Temperatures
 - -Oil pressure
 - Distance traveled/hours in operation (currently used by TxDOT)



Selection of Vehicle Category

- EOS Database
 - Engine Type and Number of Units.
 - Average Model Year.
 - Total and Average Oil Expense
 - Total and Average Usage
- Data logging considerations

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121	09840G	75010	16	363	XL3100	2004	178	216	D
122	09841G	75010	11	363	XL3100 4X	2004	202	216	D
123	09842G	75010	13	363	XL3100 4X	2004	241	216	D
124	09843G	75010	13	363	XL3100 4X	2004	121	216	D
125	09844G	75010	13	363	XL3100 4X	2004	8	216	D
126	09846G	75010	19	363	XL3100	2004	19	216	D
127	09848G	75010	24	363	XL3100	2004	72	216	D
128	09850G	75010	12	363	XL3100	2004	102	216	D
129	09852G	75010	13	363	XL3100	2005	62	216	D
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Final Selection

Engine Type	Vehicle Type	Make	Typical Model	Number of Units	Average Year Model
MBE4000	Truck	Sterling	LT9500	355	2006



- High oil expenses incurred
- Well-represented in overall fleet
- High usage category
- High average model year



Identification of Test Units

- Random selection of ten units (plus 2 alternates) after applying geographical constraints
- Selected from Bryan, Houston, Austin and Waco districts





Data Collection – Oil Sampling

- Extracted through engine dipstick tube via vacuum pump
- Small quantity (<100ml) comparable to oil burn rate.
- Analysis performed by third party laboratory
- Operators maintain log sheet





Parameter	Standard Number	Standard/Test Name
Viscosity	Modified ASTM D445	Standard Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids
Oxidation		Standard Practice for Condition Monitoring of Used Lubricants
Nitration	ASTM E2412	by Trend Analysis Using Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) Spectrometry
Total Acid Number	Modified ASTM D664	Standard Test Method for Acid Number of Petroleum Products by Potentiometric Titration
Total Base Number	Modified ASTM D4739	Standard Test Method for Base Number Determination by Potentiometric Hydrochloric Acid Titration
Wear Metals	Modified ASTM D5185	Standard Test Method for Determination of Additive Elements, Wear Metals, and Contaminants in Used Lubricating Oils and Determination of Selected Elements in Base Oils by Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometry (ICP-AES)
Soot	ASTM E2412	Standard Practice for Condition Monitoring of Used Lubricants by Trend Analysis Using Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) Spectrometry
Fuel Dilution	-	Fuel Dilution by Gas Chromatography



Data Collection – Engine Data

- J1939 port using Caflor IOSiX data logger
- Transferred to a laptop from memory card
- Data downloaded biweekly







Data Collection and Analysis

- Data collected from ~ July/August 2011 through October 2012
 - Oil change intervals extended in select vehicles
- Data analysis conducted concurrently
 - Oil and engine data and trends
 - Stepwise methods, component plots and other statistics
- Overall findings
 - Low levels of oil degradation
 - Engine operations predominantly low load, with high levels of idling



Engine Speed (All Vehicles)

- 60% of run time at idle
- 98% of idle speed time is spent at torque levels less than 10%





Vehicle Speed (All Vehicles)

 64 percent of run time at speeds under 3.1 mph





Example Oil Results – Viscosity Tests





Spreadsheet Tool and Guide

- Data logger setup instructions
- Database setup instructions
- Data analysis features



Spreadsheet-Based Engine Data Analysis Tool -User's Guide

Project 0-6626 Project Title: Fleet Equipment Performance Measurement Preventive Maintenance Model



Authors: Jeremy Johnson Tara Ramani Michael Kader

Product 0-6626-P1



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Example Analysis





Graphs



Database Setur Database User Input Analyzed Data Wheel Based Vehicle Speed (kph / 91) 4



Conclusions

- Methodology and procedures established successfully
- Data collection and analysis produced interesting results
- However low oil degradation levels limited scope of findings



Conclusions (contd.)

- Support replacing 10,000 mile oil change guidance (current TxDOT practice) with manufacturer recommendations
 - 15,000 miles for annual use of 6,000-60,000 miles
 - Estimated cost savings of \$ 16,000 per year



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