

ENGINEERING BULLETIN

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Cummins Hard Starting

Over the last couple of years, there have been occasional complaints of hard starting problems with late model Cummins electronic engines. The first fuel filter product introduced with this engine did not contain an internal standpipe. This was later added by the OE presumably to address this starting problem.

Since 1997, the Hastings FF1060 has similarly contained this internal standpipe. Despite this design change, some engines have continued to experience hard starting problems. At the time of the standpipe's introduction, some customers reported the problem went away while others continued to experience problems. Customers reported that Cummins made changes to the engine's electronics that in some cases had a positive impact, but not in all cases.

Hard starting was not related to only the FF1060. It was reported to us that the problem exists regardless of the brand of fuel filter they tried. The conclusion from Hastings's standpoint was that the hard starting problem was probably not caused by the fuel filter regardless of manufacturer, but was primarily due to the engine's electronics.

In January of this year, we made a change to the FF1060's internal element seal, centertube, and standpipe to improve other aspects of its performance. The element seal was changed to a higher grade of Nitrile material, and the centertube and standpipe were replaced with a unique design that incorporates both of the previous components with a single one-piece centertube that also serves as the standpipe.

While we did not intend that these changes would or could address the hard starting problems with these engines, we have seen positive effects. Customers that we have worked with on hard starting problems are reporting that the newest design of the FF1060, produced since January of 1999, has made a positive impact on these engines.

Please use this information to communicate to your customers how this Hastings product may help them with the hard starting problems encountered on Cummins electronic engines. Results have been very positive with these changes and we believe the FF1060 now offers even greater performance advantages over the OEM product for this application.

**If you have further questions,
please contact our
Service Engineering Team at (800) 887-8836.**