ENGINEERING BULLETIN

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Installation Instructions for Spin-on Filters

The spin-on filter is replaced more often than any other service part on your vehicle or equipment. To insure normal filter service life and prevent leakage or possible damage to the application, proper filter installation is very important. However, filter replacement is often considered to be a minor service procedure and proper installation may be overlooked.

The following procedure should be followed when replacing spin-on filters.

1. Remove the installed filter using a filter wrench, if necessary.

2. Clean mounting base, making sure the old filter gasket is not stuck to the base.

3. Apply a light film of clean oil to the new gasket.

Note: Never use grease to lubricate the gasket.

4. Spin the new filter on carefully, avoiding cross threading. Some engine manufacturers may recommend pre-filling the filter.

5. After the sealing gasket contacts the mounting base, tighten the filter the required number of turns per the instructions found on the filter, box, or service manual.

If there is any uncertainty about how much the filter needs to be turned, the use of an index mark may be beneficial.

The procedure would be as follows:

1. Spin the filter on by hand until the gasket makes contact with the surface of the mounting base.

2. Place an aligned index mark on the mounting base and the filter.

3. Turn the filter to the proper amount specified on the filter, box, or service manual.

Example: If one full turn is recommended after gasket contact, tighten the filter until the index mark on the filter is re-aligned with the index mark on the mounting base. This will insure that the filter is properly tightened to the mounting base. Keep in mind that on some applications (especially heavy-duty applications) a filter wrench may be necessary. DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN. Over tightening is not necessary or beneficial.

Occasionally, there are concerns about damaging the threads on the stud of the mounting base. This condition could occur if extreme force is applied and the filter is over tightened over a period of service intervals. When using a filter wrench, utilize caution to prevent damaging the filter canister.

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