NEWS

Manufacturers of Emission Controls Association

2020 North 14th Street * Suite 220 * Arlington, VA 22201 * tel: 202.296.4797 * www.meca.org

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CONTACT:
Antonio Santos
202.296.4797 x108
asantos@meca.org

MECA Releases Diesel Retrofit Sales Figures for 2010

Washington, D.C. – The Manufacturers of Emission Controls Association (MECA) today released the results of its survey summarizing the total number of diesel retrofit devices sold by MECA member companies in 2010. According to the results, the total number of verified (U.S. EPA- and/or California ARB-verified) diesel retrofit devices (for both on-road and off-road diesel engines) sold in the U.S. (including California) by MECA member companies in 2010 was 24,640. Of this total, 41 percent (10,173) were diesel particulate filters (includes both passively regenerated and actively regenerated filters), 40 percent (9,926) were diesel oxidation catalysts, and 8 percent (1,961) were flow-through filters. This total also includes 2,580 closed-crankcase filters. In California, 7,487 diesel retrofit devices were sold, of which 77 percent (5,745) were diesel particulate filters and 23 percent (1,730) were flow-through filters. Compared to the results of MECA's previous surveys, the number of diesel particulate filters and diesel oxidation catalysts sold in 2010 remained about the same (20,099 diesel particulate filters and diesel oxidation catalysts were sold in the U.S. by MECA member companies in 2010, 20,197 in 2009, 22,300 in 2008, and 20,553 in 2007).

Although sales of diesel particulate filters and diesel oxidation catalysts have remained steady over the past several years, these numbers are relatively small compared to the overall number of diesel engines currently operating in the U.S. (up to 20 million based on EPA statistics). Funding from the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) through EPA's National Clean Diesel Campaign (approximately $531 million appropriated from FY 2007 to FY 2011, including $300 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) has helped provide much-needed funding and financial incentives for many clean diesel projects (using retrofit devices, as well as engine repowers and vehicle replacements); however, more dedicated and innovative funding is needed to clean up all of the diesel engines in the existing fleet. DERA was re-authorized at the end of last year for FY 2012-2016, but no funding has been appropriated yet.

In California, ARB's in-use on-road diesel vehicle regulation and in-use off-road diesel vehicle regulation are expected to generate additional demand for diesel retrofit devices (primarily diesel particulate filters), but amendments to the regulations approved in December 2010 meant to give fleets more time to comply due to the economic recession will slow the pace of retrofit sales and depress the total retrofit market opportunity in the state.

"Over the past decade, diesel retrofit programs in the U.S. have successfully demonstrated the ability of emission control technologies to reduce harmful emissions from both on-road and off-road diesel vehicles at reasonable cost and without jeopardizing vehicle performance. In addition, these programs have helped create or preserve a significant number of highly skilled jobs in the emission control industry," said MECA's Executive Director, Joseph Kubsh. "Going forward, MECA member companies remain committed to developing, optimizing, and commercializing these retrofit technologies. Furthermore, we are hopeful that Congress will act to include funding for DERA in EPA's FY 2012 budget."

MECA today also released a new fact sheet on retrofitting diesel particulate filters on existing diesel engines. The fact sheet debunks some common myths associated with the use of these devices. The fact sheet is available on MECA's diesel retrofit website at: www.dieselretrofit.org (under Useful Documents >> Fact Sheets).

Founded in 1976, MECA is a national association of companies that manufacture a variety of mobile source emission control equipment for automobiles, trucks, buses, and off-road vehicles and engines, as well as stationary internal combustion engines. For more information on exhaust emission control technology, please visit MECA's website at: www.meca.org.

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