

Design changes in the way oils are being filtered

Oil filtration has always been a key factor in prolonging the life of your equipment's power source. The oil is the life blood of your engine and doing the best we can to prolong the life of that oil and reduce the contaminants that are present in even the most cared-for engine is crucial.

Filters of the past consisted of a paper element filter that would capture the majority of the larger contaminant within the oil system. The thought of producing a material that would filter even the tiniest of particles out of the oil system seemed at best an unreachable goal. To do that, the filter material would have to be so close knit or fine that the oil itself would struggle to flow through it.

Today with the modern technology that is available, a new synthetic material has been produced to replace the old paper material. This new synthetic material allows the filter material to be much finer and not restrict the flow of the oil itself. Along with this new material, some of the filters are incorporating a venturi system that assists the flow of the oil as it goes through the filter system. By doing this, even the coldest of oils can flow through this new filter and reach the critical components of your engine and begin building oil pressure as much as 3 seconds faster than with the filters of the past.

With this new technology, the service intervals of the engine oil and filter has continued to climb. Remember the days when the oil in your tractor or combine engine was changed every 100 hours? Now the service intervals have reached elevations of up to 300 hours. With the high cost of oils today and the amount of downtime prevented, these new filters will definitely continue to impact the way we handle our engine maintenance program.

As you prepare for the upcoming season, take some time to consider the type of engine oil and also the type of engine oil filter you plan to use on your piece of equipment. Remember that the engine is the heart of that equipment and the oil flowing through it is the life blood of that engine. Let's all take the best care that we can to provide that engine with the optimal chance of sustaining a long life.

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