

# Service Bulletin

May 30, 2006

Vol. 5 Number 1

## VELCON FILTERS, INC. RECOMMENDS DISCONTINUING THE USE OF WATER ABSORBING CARTRIDGES WITH PRE-MIXED FUEL CONTAINING ANTI-ICING ADDITIVES

### Background on Use of DiEGME with Water Absorbing Cartridges

Since 1997, Velcon Filters, Inc. has recommended that operators who use pre-mixed fuel with anti-icing additives (DiEGME, FIZZY<sup>®</sup>, Prist<sup>®</sup>) prior to filtration should use caution when using water absorbing cartridges (also known as monitors). Velcon has issued a number of service bulletins and articles in its newsletter "The Clarifier" addressing the performance and operation of water absorbing cartridges when anti-icing additive is present in the fuel. The following recommendations have been consistently provided:

1. Drain vessel daily
2. Changeout at 15 psid
3. Inject anti-icing additives after filtration whenever possible

In 2001 Velcon added the following caution statement to all of Velcon's water absorbing cartridge and vessel data sheets and installation instructions.

\*\*\*\*\*CAUTION\*\*\*\*\*

In fuels containing anti-icing additive (Di-EGME, FSII, Prist<sup>®</sup>), stagnant water bottoms can absorb large amounts of the anti-icing additive. This water/FSII solution can disarm water-absorbing elements allowing water to pass downstream. Daily draining of the monitor vessel and of water bottoms upstream of the elements is IMPERATIVE. Also, changeout @ 15 psid.

In November of 2003 Velcon issued a service bulletin that recommended that service life for all water absorbing cartridges should be one (1) year. Velcon also advised all operators to continue to follow the previously published Velcon guidelines of May, 2003.

In a Clarifier article published in March, 2000, Velcon addressed the issue of using coalescers in pre-mixed fuel. This article confirmed that Velcon had not encountered any operational problems with the coalescers, provided operators regularly drain storage tanks and filter/separators sumps daily. In the article Velcon also emphasized that it is extremely important to use desiccant dryers on

### VELCON FILTERS, INC. POSITION

During the Coordinating Research Council (CRC) meeting in May of 2006 it became clear to Velcon that although very clear guidelines exist for the safe operation of pre-mixed fuel, it has proven difficult for operators to ensure that the water absorbing cartridges are being operated correctly.

Following the CRC meeting and for the reasons set forth above, **Velcon Filters, Inc. has concluded that effective immediately, the use of water absorbing cartridges with commercial fuels (Jet A and Jet A1) containing anti-icing additives should be discontinued.** Velcon believes this decision is also supported by the fact that the current IP specification 1583 does not address the issue of fuels containing anti-icing additives.