MAINTENANCE MATTERS

Fuel system maintenance

With the cost of diesel fuel on the rise, it is more important today to maintain your fuel and air intake systems for long engine life, satisfactory engine performance and acceptable exhaust emission levels.

Regular fuel filter replacement is recommended at 10,000 miles or as outlined by either the engine manufacturer or MCI maintenance manual. When the coach is equipped with primary and secondary filters, replacement of both filters is recommended at the same time, noting the filters may not be identical, depending on engine application.

The exception to this rule is the Fuel Pro382. This single fuel filter replaces the existing primary and secondary fuel filters and also provides longer filter service life through accurate lifespan control by scanning the fuel level in the filter cap.

When new, the fuel level in the filter will be very low, causing minimal restriction. As the filter ages, contamination collects on the filter element from the bottom up. In the contaminated area, the restriction increases and the fuel level in the filter rises, indicating the remaining filter life. When the fuel level reaches approximately 2/3 of the way to the top of the cartridge, the element should be replaced. Pay close attention to the proper installation procedure outlined in the maintenance manual. A common cause of coach-down issues is the incorrect assembly of the filter, allowing the fuel system to lose its prime.

New coaches are equipped with a single dry-type replacement element air cleaner, located in the engine compartment. Engine air enters the air cleaner through intake ducts, and foreign matter, dust and dirt are prevented from entering the engine by the filter element.

A re-settable restriction indicator is installed near the air cleaner outlet to inform the operator of filter condition. It measures air flow restriction in inches of water. When the indicator service window reaches the red zone, replace the filter element and reset the indicator.

By monitoring the restriction indicator, maximum filter elements service can be achieved. This indicator also provides protection to the engine and helps maintain fuel system efficiency.

For additional information, consult your MCI maintenance manual, or call 800-241-2947 and ask to speak to a member of the Technical Call Center team.