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JASPER Phases Out Gas-Powered Transmission Dynamometers

After 21 years of service to JASPER's Transmission Division, one of the last gas-powered dynamometer test stands was removed December 22nd.

Back in the day, gas powered dynos were the norm instead of the exception. JASPER sported as many as five units in service at any one time. However, these units were phased out in favor of Axi-Line computer-controlled electric models.

"The gas powered dynos were not automated units, which we need for a couple of reasons," says Craig Leuck, JASPER Transmission Division Manager. "An automated unit gives us a higher level of test accuracy and efficiency, plus it automatically tests the transmission and records information, which the gas-powered unit couldn't do.

Leuck says the gas dynamometers were only equipped with analog gauges, while the computer-controlled stands can take digital readings in tenths of a pound. He added the older stands could not work with electronic transmissions, so they were limited in the



Out With The Old - One of the last gas powered transmission dynos was removed just before Christmas.

transmission types they could test, which limited their flexibility.

The latest model of electronic dynamometer is similar to the other Axi-Line stands used at JASPER. However, it's state-of-the-art computer program takes JASPER to the next level of transmission testing. Its operating system allows JASPER to run Control Area Network (CANbus) communication systems in new six-speed automatic transmissions. "In those transmissions, the computer system sits inside the pan, rather than a separate fixture outside of the transmission case," says Leuck.

JASPER has made improvements to the new Axi-Line unit to make the test stand more user friendly. "The hydraulic hookups for the hoses are located at eye level," added Leuck. "This makes for a more ergonomically-friendly work area for the Associate."

There remains one gas-powered dyno within the company. It's used in the Allison Transmission Department, testing everything from 1000 Series to 700 Series V-Drive transmissions.



In With The New - JASPER Associate Aaron Schipp puts the new Axi-Line computer controlled electric dynamometer through its paces.

Be Car Care Aware™

The Engine Exchange

For our first issue of 2009, we are highlighting The Engine Exchange in Chatham, New Jersey.

The Engine Exchange takes care of major engine repair and replacement only... No general repair. Owner Harry Spaven found a niche market for his facility, which opened nearly 30 years ago. "I don't want to be a general repair shop's competition," says Harry. "They are my customers."

Harry worked in general repair for many years and found that most shops in his area didn't want to get involved with major engine repair and replacement. So he opened The Engine Exchange in May of 1981 on Commerce Street in Chatham. In October of 1995, Harry purchased a new 2,000 square foot building for his growing business, and in the Spring of 1996, The Engine Exchange moved to its present location at 32 River Road.

Whether the work is foreign or domestic, most of the vehicles that come into The Engine Exchange's three service bays are towed in from other shops in and around Mars and Passaic Counties. Turnaround time is quick, with jobs guaranteed complete in a maximum of three days. The three employees work as an efficient group in the facility's three service bays, yet they still take the time to attend JASPER Technical Clinics when they are held in their area.

The Engine Exchange started using JASPER remanufactured products exclusively in 2005. On average, the company purchases 50 gas engines, three diesel engines and 35 installation kits each year. Why does The Engine Exchange exclusively use JASPER? Harry's answer is simple. "Because I only want to do the job once," replied Harry. "Most engine remanufacturers are here today and gone tomorrow, but not JASPER. They've been in business since 1942."

Because customers trust The Engine Exchange's ability to do the job right, and ensure the customer will be 100% satisfied, Harry's business philosophy is to "Do the job the right way the first time, and stand behind my work at all costs." The Engine Exchange provides piece of mind for their customers should a situation crop up. "If there ever is a warranty, I have never charged a penny," says Harry. "Not for towing, additional labor, parts, etc. Not a penny."

In the future, Harry would like to expand The Engine Exchange to accommodate fleets, large trucks and municipalities. But for now, The Engine Exchange remains a hub for major engine replacement and repair in the Chatham area, and a cherished JASPER customer. Keep up the good work!



Just as the name implies, The Engine Exchange in Chatham, New Jersey, takes care of engine replacement and major engine repair.

To Dye or Not To Dye

by Eric Bakke, JASPER Gas Engine Quality Control Captain

Eric Bakke

has been in the automotive field for 26 years as a business owner, fleet maintenance supervisor and an automotive machinist. He has been with JASPER for eight years. Eric is ASE-Certified as a Master Engine Specialist and for Engine Repair, Automatic Transmission and Transaxles, and Manual Drivetrain and Axles.



It's not antifreeze - JASPER uses oil dye to detect leaks during engine testing. The black-light finds this leak coming from an oil galley plug.

Back in the early 1980's I worked for a new car dealership in Wyoming where the winters were cold and the wind always blew. This particular dealership had seven different lines of cars and trucks, and each one presented a new challenge.

One particular vehicle I can still remember like yesterday was a brand new 1980 Pontiac wagon with a 301 V8. All the repair order said was "repair oil leak". So the typical routine was to open the hood and look for any obvious leaks. This particular vehicle was loaded with all the new emission pumps, hoses and solenoids. It was obvious I wasn't going to see the engine from the top, let alone a leak. So under the car I go and yes, the customer was correct, he had an oil leak. This particular leak was coming somewhere from the right rear of the engine. But where? I tried my best to see between the firewall and the engine with no success. I then began removing parts trying to find the culprit and I could see where it was coming from - sort of. I replaced the valve cover gasket, but no, that wasn't it either. Finally, someone suggested baby powder. So I sprayed baby powder up behind the engine and it adhered to the

oil trail. I eventually found the problem... it was a defective head casting. If I had only had oil dye and a black light.

Today, most automotive repair shops have dye checking capabilities. Who would have thought the technology in the black light posters hanging in your room would be used in the automotive field one day. Fluorescent dyes have been used for years in anything from glass repair to air conditioning leak detection and medical science.

At all Jasper Engines & Transmissions production locations, oil dye is automatically metered from a 55 gallon drum into the gas and diesel engine oil tanks. After live run testing, the Associate will dim the overhead lights and begin the leak detection process. Emphasis is put on the following areas: oil pan, rear main seal, timing cover, oil galley plugs, valve covers, and, if installed, the intake manifold. In addition, our shipping area checks the rear seal at the skidding station to assure we have a perfect product.

You as a customer may see some traces of green in the engine bag that resembles antifreeze. Do not be alarmed... this is only dye. **Jasper Engines & Transmissions uses no antifreeze during testing.**

JASPER has been very pleased with the results since the dye checking process was put into place several

years ago and will continue to use it.

Thankfully, we don't have to use that baby powder anymore.

2010 - Got Calendar Pix? Send 'em In!

I know, we're only a couple of months into 2009. But we've already got some entries for the Jasper Engines & Transmissions 2010 calendar! Why don't you send your entry in?

You know the drill... Entrants must submit a color photograph (35mm or larger) and information about their unique vehicle, or performance car or truck, along with the JASPER remanufactured product that has been installed. Vehicles should be placed in a "show" type setting. Polaroid pictures and low-resolution digital images transferred onto photo paper cannot be accepted. High-resolution digital images, 8" x 10" at 350 dpi, are preferred.

All entries will be judged based on adherence to the category, equipment appearance and the quality of the photograph.

Entries should be mailed to:
Jasper Engines & Transmissions
P.O.Box 650
Jasper, IN 47547-0650
Attn: Roxanne Sherman

JASPER Honors 'Do It Right' Award Winners for 2008



Ed McKee & Jerry Brockman were two of the nine JASPER Associates recognized for a 'Do It Right' Award for 2008.

At JASPER's End of The Year meeting held December 5th, 2008, nine Associates were recognized by company president Doug Bawel as winners of the annual 'Do It Right' Award.

Throughout the year, supervisors or fellow Associates can nominate Associates for a 'Do It Right' Award. An Associate may be nominated for any form of outstanding service to JASPER, its Associates or customers. A total of 58 Associates were nominated for their services in 2008.

At the end of the year, management reviews all the nominations and presents awards to the most outstanding nominees. The number of awards may vary from year to year depending upon the number of deserving nominees.

The winners for 2008 are:

- **Jonathan Gazarian/JET Transit** - While on his way to work, Jonathan saved the life of an injured motorist whose truck went over an embankment. He stayed with the motorist and kept him comfortable until emergency help arrived.
- **Vince Shiflett/Baltimore Branch** - Stopped a young autistic child from running out into heavy traffic on a busy street in York, Pennsylvania.
- **Jerry Brockman/Jasper Gas Division** - Came in on his day off to tag and bag units for shipment.
- **Ed McKee/Jasper Gas Division** - Fielded phone calls while on vacation to help get a CNC machine back online.
- **Dallas McColgin/Willow Springs Gas Division** - Discovered a potential camshaft problem on three engines prior to shipment. This prevented potential warranty issues.
- **Vasile Kozan/Jasper Gas Division** - Noticed a potential balancer issue on four Class II engines prior to shipment, preventing potential warranties.
- **Rick Rich/Willow Springs Transmission Division** - Detected a problem with a shipment of new parts & prevented their usage, eliminating possible warranty issues.
- **David Grimmer/Richmond Branch** - Great customer service as he picked up a damaged transfer case core. Customer discarded damaged core and had to pay additional \$250. David found an extra transfer case from another location and paid \$20 for it out of his own pocket. He returned to the customer and gave his \$250 check back. Customer paid David his \$20 for the core and was happy.
- **Brad Stephens/Kingman Branch** - Branch truck was out of service, so he used his personal vehicle to pick up a customer's core.

New Customer Feedback/Product Registration Program

In the near future, JASPER will implement a new program designed to make it easier for vehicle owners to provide feedback on JASPER products and their experience with the shop that installed the JASPER product. This will be a web-based program that will work in conjunction with the release of the redesigned JASPER website.

We will also use the information gathered to develop a consumer data-

base which may be used by JASPER or by the installing shops for future marketing efforts. We hope to have this plan operational by the end of the first quarter of 2009.

When the program begins, there will be an instruction card inserted in the existing customer information packet explaining to the vehicle owners how to register their product.

When the registration is completed, the customer is entered into a sweep-

stakes drawing for a \$500.00 Visa Gift Card. A winner will be selected quarterly. The shop that installs the unit for the winner will also receive a \$500.00 Visa Gift Card.

In the upcoming weeks, your JASPER Factory Outside Sales Representative will explain more about how this program will work as they make visits to your shop. Please watch for more information to follow concerning this important program.

JASPER Expands Domestic Engine Lineup for Late-Model Applications

JASPER has expanded its domestic late model engine lineup from GM, Ford and Dodge.

Available on exchange is the 5.7L Dodge HEMI V8. This engine is available for the following 2006–2008 applications:

- Dodge Ram Truck (with or without MDS system)
- Dodge Charger & Magnum
- Chrysler 300 RWD & AWD
- Jeep Commander & Grand Cherokee
- Dodge Durango
- Chrysler Aspen

From GM, JASPER has available on exchange the 3.4L OHV V6 for the 2005 & 2006 Chevy Equinox and Pontiac Torrent. Also available is the GM 5.3L Gen IV V8 engine for the following applications:

- 2007–2009 Chevy/GMC Truck & SUV
- 2007–2009 Chevy Trailblazer/GMC Envoy & Buick Rainier
- 2005 Pontiac Grand Prix

JASPER has available on exchange the 4.0L SOHC Ford V6 engine for the following 2005–2008 applications:

- Ford Mustang
- Ford Ranger
- Ford Explorer
- Mercury Mountaineer
- Mazda B4000

Each of these remanufactured engines carries JASPER's three year 100,000 mile nationwide transferable parts and labor warranty. A full warranty disclosure is available upon request.

Log onto www.jasperengines.com or call 1-800-827-7455 or more information on these and other products from JASPER.

JASPER Honored for Environmental Stewardship



JASPER's Executive Vice-President of Manufacturing Mike Schwenk holds the Environmental Stewardship Award.

JASPER Engines & Transmissions has been recognized at the state level for being a forward-thinking corporate citizen towards energy efficiency.

Mike Schwenk, JASPER's Executive Vice-President of Manufacturing, poses with the Environmental Stewardship Award from Energy Management Systems of Indianapolis. The award recognizes JASPER's Turn-Key Energy Reduction Plan, compliant with the Federal Energy Policy Act.

The plan includes the recent upgrade of production area lighting which not only saves energy, but has resulted in an annual reduction of over 2.2 million pounds of air pollutants!

In a letter accompanying the award, Indiana Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman touted energy efficiency as the "fifth fuel," and is the most cost effective way to balance energy supplies, while not having to tap into future supplies before it's necessary.

"Your commitment to energy efficiency and the environment proves that you have a successful company, with strong leadership and concern for the future of Indiana and the nation as a whole," says Skillman.

JASPER Has New GM Diffs, While They Last

Jasper Engines & Transmissions has in stock approximately 800 brand new GM rear differentials for late-model applications.

These surplus units are for 2008-2009 Chevy/GMC 1/2-ton pickups, Chevy Colorado/GMC Canyon pickups, and Hummer H3 sport utility vehicles.

“These units are bolt-in ready,” says Dan Douglas, JASPER Differential Parts Manager. “They are loaded with new drum brakes, new axles, and even full of fluid. Some of the Colorado/Canyon and Hummer differentials are even equipped with disc brakes.”

Please call Jasper Engines & Transmissions at 1-800-827-7455 for pricing and availability.



We've Got Your Rear - JASPER has approximately 800 new GM differentials available for late-model applications. Please call JASPER for pricing and availability.



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