Fleet Testing

Fleet testing is a simultaneous assessment of robustness, emission system deterioration, and a representation of real life mileage accumulation.

The tightening of European emission control legislation to meet the 160,000 km mileage requirements demands a high-quality and well-structured check of conformity with real life vehicle durability testing. The key to success with this issue is providing a close collaboration between the durability team and the technical specialists.

FEV has been successfully performing vehicle durability projects (s. fig. 1) for nearly all of the worldwide OEMs for more than 11 years, which provides our customers with a level of confidence that their goals will be achieved. FEV provides a specially trained and experienced driver pool that has operated test vehicles for more than 22 million accident-free kilometers. The members of this team follow a driver’s profile, which was specially developed for these tasks. The profiles are specific with regard to the handling of experimental vehicles as well as all technology and safety aspects. Testing programs are conducted using a managed fleet involving vehicle operation on a group of defined worldwide test routes, ensuring statistically valid durability results. FEV drivers operate these managed fleet vehicles through Scandinavian winters, into the heights of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, through heat of South Africa as well as directly to the locations of our customers. FEV also offers the possibility of direct collaboration in durability testing using customer-approved test routes for specific programs.

FEV drivers operate vehicles around-the-clock. We provide on-call technicians and engineers to support the activities. The scope of service includes scheduling, management, evaluation, accompanying documentation, troubleshooting and analysis as well as providing inputs to the development process in the form of suggestions for improvement. The integration of the durability team into the FEV vehicle application competence center ensures the availability of expert knowledge to the vehicle program and enables FEV to provide a complete set of services for durability testing. This all-inclusive durability testing package also includes an emission dynamometer to complete cyclic emission tests (SULEV standard); a chemistry laboratory, as well as a large workshop and highly-skilled workforce.

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* In addition, view the report in Spectrum No. 34 (Application in USA and China)