

My experience with Fuel Doctor

Brisbane Bus Lines

When a bus fleet suddenly stops in its tracks an entire commuting public is immediately affected. That was the worrying scenario faced by school and route bus operator Brisbane Bus Lines when fuel contamination was detected in the fuel bunkering storage system. Director Ian Mitchell remembers the time well, almost eight years ago. The cause was tracked to a bug that infested the distillate storage tanks at the company's Enoggera depot in the North West suburbs of Brisbane.

"We found that water had seeped into our fuel storage tanks. A specific bug called cladosporium resinae combined with water to grow a fungus and that spread quickly and block fuel filters which starved pumps and injectors." said Ian.

Fortunately, the remedy was much simpler than the prospect of stripping all fuel lines and dismantling pumps and injectors. "We immediately used the Fuel Doctor distillate additive and solved the problem of a stalled bus fleet," added Ian.

Fuel Doctor is a fuel conditioner that has been formulated to dissolve moisture back into the fuel, preventing the initial growth of fuel fungi and sulphate-reducing bacteria, whilst dissolving gum and varnish build up in the fuel system, especially at the injectors. These dissolved contaminants then pass through combustion with no detrimental effects to any of the fuel system components.

Fuel doctor will promote optimum engine operation through improved injector and combustion efficiency, better filter life and performance leading to better fuel economy.

"Our decision to use Fuel Doctor has resulted in a total re-think of our preventive maintenance for pumps and injectors."said Lionel O'Neill, Maintenance Manager at Brisbane Bus Lines.

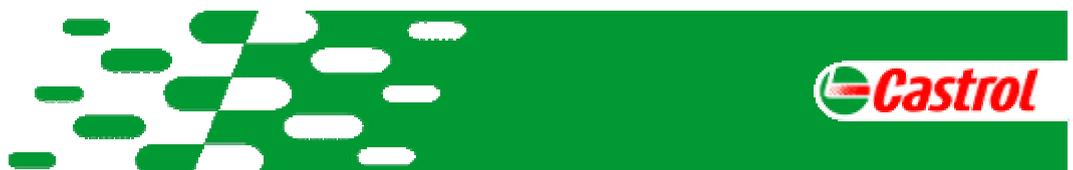
"We used to recondition pumps and injectors at ½ engine life. Since using Fuel Doctor we have cut the need to recondition pumps and injectors during the engines' life. That relates to saving thousands of dollars and reduced downtime. Every vehicle in the fleet of 65 buses and coaches receives a double dose treatment of Fuel Doctor when it enters service. From then on, the correct dose of Fuel Doctor is administered through the standard fuel bunkering system. "

"If a coach heads off on a tour, we make sure the driver takes along his own supply for the duration of the trip," said Lionel. "The benefits to our total operation extend far further than simply breaking down water contamination or fungal growth found in distillate. We're more efficient, there's no black smoke and injectors and pumps are always clean. That's very important for a fleet that is permanently under close public scrutiny," said Lionel.

Treatment of the company's fuel storage system is incorporated into each underground storage tank refill, dispersed on a ratio of one-litre/4000 litres of distillate.



Ian Mitchell and Lionel O'Neill (L-R)



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Brisbane Bus Lines - continued

The advantages of working with Castrol extend further into the fleet with the use of Castrol RX Super, Turbomax and CRB40 oils for fleet maintenance. "We have been able to extend our oil drain intervals by 50 per cent by using regular oil sampling of all our vehicles," said Lionel. "The use of Castrol products in all aspects of our business is a partnership that has brought substantial benefits," he added.

For further information on Castrol's product range, please contact our Technical Helpline on 1300 557 998 or your local Castrol Sales Manager.

