3.4 Large Stationary Diesel And All Stationary Dual-fuel Engines

3.4.1 General

The primary domestic use of large stationary diesel engines (greater than 600 horsepower [hp]) is in oil and gas exploration and production. These engines, in groups of 3 to 5, supply mechanical power to operate drilling (rotary table), mud pumping, and hoisting equipment, and may also operate pumps or auxiliary power generators. Another frequent application of large stationary diesels is electricity generation for both base and standby service. Smaller uses include irrigation, hoisting, and nuclear power plant emergency cooling water pump operation.

Dual-fuel engines were developed to obtain compression ignition performance and the economy of natural gas, using a minimum of 5 to 6 percent diesel fuel to ignite the natural gas. Large dual-fuel engines have been used almost exclusively for prime electric power generation. This section includes all dual-fuel engines.

3.4.2 Process Description

All reciprocating internal combustion (IC) engines operate by the same basic process. A combustible mixture is first compressed in a small volume between the head of a piston and its surrounding cylinder. The mixture is then ignited, and the resulting high-pressure products of combustion push the piston through the cylinder. This movement is converted from linear to rotary motion by a crankshaft. The piston returns, pushing out exhaust gases, and the cycle is repeated.

There are 2 ignition methods used in stationary reciprocating IC engines, compression ignition (CI) and spark ignition (SI). In CI engines, combustion air is first compression heated in the cylinder, and diesel fuel oil is then injected into the hot air. Ignition is spontaneous because the air temperature is above the autoignition temperature of the fuel. SI engines initiate combustion by the spark of an electrical discharge. Usually the fuel is mixed with the air in a carburetor (for gasoline) or at the intake valve (for natural gas), but occasionally the fuel is injected into the compressed air in the cylinder. Although all diesel- fueled engines are compression ignited and all gasoline- and gas-fueled engines are spark ignited, gas can be used in a CI engine if a small amount of diesel fuel is injected into the compressed gas/air mixture to burn any mixture ratio of gas and diesel oil (hence the name dual fuel), from 6 to 100 percent diesel oil.

CI engines usually operate at a higher compression ratio (ratio of cylinder volume when the piston is at the bottom of its stroke to the volume when it is at the top) than SI engines because fuel is not present during compression; hence there is no danger of premature autoignition. Since engine thermal efficiency rises with increasing pressure ratio (and pressure ratio varies directly with compression ratio), CI engines are more efficient than SI engines. This increased efficiency is gained at the expense of poorer response to load changes and a heavier structure to withstand the higher pressures.¹

3.4.3 Emissions And Controls

Most of the pollutants from IC engines are emitted through the exhaust. However, some total organic compounds (TOC) escape from the crankcase as a result of blowby (gases that are vented from the oil pan after they have escaped from the cylinder past the piston rings) and from the fuel tank

and carburetor because of evaporation. Nearly all of the TOCs from diesel CI engines enter the atmosphere from the exhaust. Crankcase blowby is minor because TOCs are not present during compression of the charge. Evaporative losses are insignificant in diesel engines due to the low volatility of diesel fuels. In general, evaporative losses are also negligible in engines using gaseous fuels because these engines receive their fuel continuously from a pipe rather than via a fuel storage tank and fuel pump.

The primary pollutants from internal combustion engines are oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) , hydrocarbons and other organic compounds, carbon monoxide (CO), and particulates, which include both visible (smoke) and nonvisible emissions. Nitrogen oxide formation is directly related to high pressures and temperatures during the combustion process and to the nitrogen content, if any, of the fuel. The other pollutants, HC, CO, and smoke, are primarily the result of incomplete combustion. Ash and metallic additives in the fuel also contribute to the particulate content of the exhaust. Sulfur oxides also appear in the exhaust from IC engines. The sulfur compounds, mainly sulfur dioxide (SO₂), are directly related to the sulfur content of the fuel.²

3.4.3.1 Nitrogen Oxides -

Nitrogen oxide formation occurs by two fundamentally different mechanisms. The predominant mechanism with internal combustion engines is thermal NO_x which arises from the thermal dissociation and subsequent reaction of nitrogen (N₂) and oxygen (O₂) molecules in the combustion air. Most thermal NO_x is formed in the high-temperature region of the flame from dissociated molecular nitrogen in the combustion air. Some NO_x , called prompt NO_x , is formed in the early part of the flame from reaction of nitrogen intermediary species, and HC radicals in the flame. The second mechanism, fuel NO_x , stems from the evolution and reaction of fuel-bound nitrogen compounds with oxygen. Gasoline, and most distillate oils, have no chemically-bound fuel N_2 and essentially all NO_x formed is thermal NO_x .

3.4.3.2 Total Organic Compounds -

The pollutants commonly classified as hydrocarbons are composed of a wide variety of organic compounds and are discharged into the atmosphere when some of the fuel remains unburned or is only partially burned during the combustion process. Most unburned hydrocarbon emissions result from fuel droplets that were transported or injected into the quench layer during combustion. This is the region immediately adjacent to the combustion chamber surfaces, where heat transfer outward through the cylinder walls causes the mixture temperatures to be too low to support combustion.

Partially burned hydrocarbons can occur because of poor air and fuel homogeneity due to incomplete mixing, before or during combustion; incorrect air/fuel ratios in the cylinder during combustion due to maladjustment of the engine fuel system; excessively large fuel droplets (diesel engines); and low cylinder temperature due to excessive cooling (quenching) through the walls or early cooling of the gases by expansion of the combustion volume caused by piston motion before combustion is completed.²

3.4.3.3 Carbon Monoxide -

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, relatively inert gas formed as an intermediate combustion product that appears in the exhaust when the reaction of CO to CO_2 cannot proceed to completion. This situation occurs if there is a lack of available oxygen near the hydrocarbon (fuel) molecule during combustion, if the gas temperature is too low, or if the residence time in the cylinder is too short. The oxidation rate of CO is limited by reaction kinetics and, as a consequence, can be accelerated only to a certain extent by improvements in air and fuel mixing during the combustion process.²⁻³

3.4.3.4 Smoke, Particulate Matter, and PM-10 -

White, blue, and black smoke may be emitted from IC engines. Liquid particulates appear as white smoke in the exhaust during an engine cold start, idling, or low load operation. These are formed in the quench layer adjacent to the cylinder walls, where the temperature is not high enough to ignite the fuel. Blue smoke is emitted when lubricating oil leaks, often past worn piston rings, into the combustion chamber and is partially burned. Proper maintenance is the most effective method of preventing blue smoke emissions from all types of IC engines. The primary constituent of black smoke is agglomerated carbon particles (soot).²

3.4.3.5 Sulfur Oxides -

Sulfur oxide emissions are a function of only the sulfur content in the fuel rather than any combustion variables. In fact, during the combustion process, essentially all the sulfur in the fuel is oxidized to SO_2 . The oxidation of SO_2 gives sulfur trioxide (SO_3), which reacts with water to give sulfuric acid (H_2SO_4), a contributor to acid precipitation. Sulfuric acid reacts with basic substances to give sulfates, which are fine particulates that contribute to PM-10 and visibility reduction. Sulfur oxide emissions also contribute to corrosion of the engine parts.^{2,3}

Table 3.4-1 contains gaseous emission factors for the pollutants discussed above, expressed in units of pounds per horsepower-hour (lb/hp-hr), and pounds per million British thermal unit (lb/MMBtu). Table 3.4-2 shows the particulate and particle-sizing emission factors. Table 3.4-3 shows the speciated organic compound emission factors and Table 3.4-4 shows the emission factors for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH). These tables do not provide a complete speciated organic compound and PAH listing because they are based only on a single engine test; they are to be used only for rough order of magnitude comparisons.

Table 3.4-5 shows the NO_x reduction and fuel consumption penalties for diesel and dual-fueled engines based on some of the available control techniques. The emission reductions shown are those that have been demonstrated. The effectiveness of controls on a particular engine will depend on the specific design of each engine, and the effectiveness of each technique could vary considerably. Other NO_x control techniques exist but are not included in Table 3.4-5. These techniques include internal/external exhaust gas recirculation, combustion chamber modification, manifold air cooling, and turbocharging.

3.4.4 Control Technologies

Control measures to date are primarily directed at limiting NO_x and CO emissions since they are the primary pollutants from these engines. From a NO_x control viewpoint, the most important distinction between different engine models and types of reciprocating engines is whether they are rich-burn or lean-burn. Rich-burn engines have an air-to-fuel ratio operating range that is near stoichiometric or fuel-rich of stoichiometric and as a result the exhaust gas has little or no excess oxygen. A lean-burn engine has an air-to-fuel operating range that is fuel-lean of stoichiometric; therefore, the exhaust from these engines is characterized by medium to high levels of O_2 . The most common NO_x control technique for diesel and dual fuel engines focuses on modifying the combustion process. However, selective catalytic reduction (SCR) and nonselective catalytic reduction (NSCR) which are post-combustion techniques are becoming available. Control for CO have been partly adapted from mobile sources.⁵

Combustion modifications include injection timing retard (ITR), preignition chamber combustion (PCC), air-to-fuel ratio, and derating. Injection of fuel into the cylinder of a CI engine initiates the combustion process. Retarding the timing of the diesel fuel injection causes the combustion process to occur later in the power stroke when the piston is in the downward motion and combustion chamber volume is increasing. By increasing the volume, the combustion temperature and pressure are lowered, thereby lowering NO_x formation. ITR reduces NO_x from all diesel engines; however, the effectiveness is specific to each engine model. The amount of NO_x reduction with ITR diminishes with increasing levels of retard.⁵

Improved swirl patterns promote thorough air and fuel mixing and may include a precombustion chamber (PCC). A PCC is an antechamber that ignites a fuel-rich mixture that propagates to the main combustion chamber. The high exit velocity from the PCC results in improved mixing and complete combustion of the lean air/fuel mixture which lowers combustion temperature, thereby reducing NO_x emissions.⁵

The air-to-fuel ratio for each cylinder can be adjusted by controlling the amount of fuel that enters each cylinder. At air-to-fuel ratios less than stoichiometric (fuel-rich), combustion occurs under conditions of insufficient oxygen which causes NO_x to decrease because of lower oxygen and lower temperatures. Derating involves restricting engine operation to lower than normal levels of power production for the given application. Derating reduces cylinder pressures and temperatures thereby lowering NO_x formation rates.⁵

SCR is an add-on NO_x control placed in the exhaust stream following the engine and involves injecting ammonia (NH₃) into the flue gas. The NH₃ reacts with the NO_x in the presence of a catalyst to form water and nitrogen. The effectiveness of SCR depends on fuel quality and engine duty cycle (load fluctuations). Contaminants in the fuel may poison or mask the catalyst surface causing a reduction or termination in catalyst activity. Load fluctuations can cause variations in exhaust temperature and NO_x concentration which can create problems with the effectiveness of the SCR system.⁵

NSCR is often referred to as a three-way conversion catalyst system because the catalyst reactor simultaneously reduces NO_x , CO, and HC and involves placing a catalyst in the exhaust stream of the engine. The reaction requires that the O_2 levels be kept low and that the engine be operated at fuel-rich air-to-fuel ratios.⁵

3.4.5 Updates Since the Fifth Edition

The Fifth Edition was released in January 1995. Revisions to this section since that date are summarized below. For further detail, consult the memoranda describing each supplement or the background report for this section.

Supplement A, February 1996

No changes.

Supplement B, October 1996

- The general text was updated.
- Controlled NO_x factors and PM factors were added for diesel units.
- Math errors were corrected in factors for CO from diesel units and for uncontrolled NO_x from dual fueled units.

	Diesel Fuel (SCC 2-02-004-01)			Dual Fuel ^b (SCC 2-02-004-02)			
Pollutant	Emission Factor (lb/hp-hr) (power output)	Emission Factor (lb/MMBtu) (fuel input)	EMISSION FACTOR RATING	Emission Factor (lb/hp-hr) (power output)	Emission Factor (lb/MMBtu) (fuel input)	EMISSION FACTOR RATING	
NO _x							
Uncontrolled	0.024	3.2	В	0.018	2.7	D	
Controlled	0.013 ^c	1.9 ^c	В	ND	ND	NA	
CO	5.5 E-03	0.85	С	7.5 E-03	1.16	D	
SO _x ^d	8.09 E-03S ₁	1.01S ₁	В	$\begin{array}{r} 4.06 \text{E-04S}_1 + 9.57 \\ \text{E-03S}_2 \end{array}$	$0.05S_1 + 0.895S_2$	В	
\rm{CO}_2^e	1.16	165	В	0.772	110	В	
PM	0.0007 ^c	0.1 ^c	В	ND	ND	NA	
TOC (as CH ₄)	7.05 E-04	0.09	С	5.29 E-03	0.8	D	
Methane	f	f	Е	3.97 E-03	0.6	E	
Nonmethane	f	f	Е	1.32 E-03	0.2 ^g	E	

Table 3.4-1. GASEOUS EMISSION FACTORS FOR LARGE STATIONARY DIESEL AND ALL STATIONARY DUAL-FUEL ENGINES^a

^a Based on uncontrolled levels for each fuel, from References 2,6-7. When necessary, the average heating value of diesel was assumed to be 19,300 Btu/lb with a density of 7.1 lb/gallon. The power output and fuel input values were averaged independently from each other, because of the use of actual brake-specific fuel consumption (BSFC) values for each data point and of the use of data possibly sufficient to calculate only 1 of the 2 emission factors (e. g., enough information to calculate lb/MMBtu, but not lb/hp-hr). Factors are based on averages across all manufacturers and duty cycles. The actual emissions from a particular engine or manufacturer could vary considerably from these levels. To convert from lb/hp-hr to kg/kw-hr, multiply by 0.608. To convert from lb/MMBtu to ng/J, multiply by 430. SCC = Source Classification Code.

- с
- Dual fuel assumes 95% natural gas and 5% diesel fuel. References 8-26. Controlled NO_x is by ignition timing retard. Assumes that all sulfur in the fuel is converted to SO₂. $S_1 = \%$ sulfur in fuel oil; $S_2 = \%$ sulfur in natural gas. For example, if sulfer d content is 1.5%, then S = 1.5.
- ^e Assumes 100% conversion of carbon in fuel to CO₂ with 87 weight % carbon in diesel, 70 weight % carbon in natural gas, dual-fuel mixture of 5% diesel with 95% natural gas, average BSFC of 7,000 Btu/hp-hr, diesel heating value of 19,300 Btu/lb, and natural gas heating value of 1050 Btu/scf.
- Based on data from 1 engine, TOC is by weight 9% methane and 91% nonmethane.
- ^g Assumes that nonmethane organic compounds are 25% of TOC emissions from dual-fuel engines. Molecular weight of nonmethane gas stream is assumed to be that of methane.

Table 3.4-2. PARTICULATE AND PARTICLE-SIZING EMISSION FACTORS FOR LARGE UNCONTROLLED STATIONARY DIESEL ENGINES^a

Pollutant	Emission Factor (lb/MMBtu) (fuel input)
Filterable particulate ^b	
< 1 µm	0.0478
< 3 µm	0.0479
< 10 µm	0.0496
Total filterable particulate	0.0620
Condensable particulate	0.0077
Total PM-10 ^c	0.0573
Total particulate ^d	0.0697

EMISSION FACTOR RATING: E

^a Based on 1 uncontrolled diesel engine from Reference 6. Source Classification Code 2-02-004-01. The data for the particulate emissions were collected using Method 5, and the particle size distributions were collected using a Source Assessment Sampling System. To convert from lb/MMBtu to ng/J, multiply by 430. PM-10 = particulate matter ≤ 10 micrometers (µm) aerometric diameter.

^b Particle size is expressed as aerodynamic diameter.

^c Total PM-10 is the sum of filterable particulate less than 10 μ m aerodynamic diameter and condensable particulate.

^d Total particulate is the sum of the total filterable particulate and condensable particulate.

Table 3.4-3. SPECIATED ORGANIC COMPOUND EMISSION FACTORS FOR LARGE UNCONTROLLED STATIONARY DIESEL ENGINES^a

Pollutant	Emission Factor (lb/MMBtu) (fuel input)
Benzene ^b	7.76 E-04
Toluene ^b	2.81 E-04
Xylenes ^b	1.93 E-04
Propylene	2.79 E-03
Formaldehyde ^b	7.89 E-05
Acetaldehyde ^b	2.52 E-05
Acrolein ^b	7.88 E-06

EMISSION FACTOR RATING: E

^aBased on 1 uncontrolled diesel engine from Reference 7. Source Classification Code 2-02-004-01. Not enough information to calculate the output-specific emission factors of lb/hp-hr. To convert from lb/MMBtu to ng/J, multiply by 430. ^bHazardous air pollutant listed in the *Clean Air Act*.

Table 3.4-4. PAH EMISSION FACTORS FOR LARGE UNCONTROLLED STATIONARY DIESEL ENGINES^a

EMISSION FACTOR RATING: E

РАН	Emission Factor (lb/MMBtu) (fuel input)			
Naphthalene ^b	1.30 E-04			
Acenaphthylene	9.23 E-06			
Acenaphthene	4.68 E-06			
Fluorene	1.28 E-05			
Phenanthrene	4.08 E-05			
Anthracene	1.23 E-06			
Fluoranthene	4.03 E-06			
Pyrene	3.71 E-06			
Benz(a)anthracene	6.22 E-07			
Chrysene	1.53 E-06			
Benzo(b)fluoranthene	1.11 E-06			
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	<2.18 E-07			
Benzo(a)pyrene	<2.57 E-07			
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene	<4.14 E-07			
Dibenz(a,h)anthracene	<3.46 E-07			
Benzo(g,h,l)perylene	<5.56 E-07			
TOTAL PAH	<2.12 E-04			

^a Based on 1 uncontrolled diesel engine from Reference 7. Source Classification Code 2-02-004-01. Not enough information to calculate the output-specific emission factors of lb/hp-hr. To convert from lb/MMBtu to ng/J, multiply by 430. ^b Hazardous air pollutant listed in the *Clean Air Act*.

			Diesel (SCC 2-02-004-01)		Dual Fuel (SCC 2-02-004-02)	
Control Approach		NO _x Reduction (%)	ΔBSFC ^b (%)	NO _x Reduction (%)	ΔBSFC (%)	
Derate	10%	ND	ND	<20	4	
	20%	<20	4	ND	ND	
	25%	5 - 23	1 - 5	1 - 33	1 - 7	
Retard	2°	<20	4	<20	3	
	4°	<40	4	<40	1	
	8°	28 - 45	2 - 8	50 - 73	3 - 5	
Air-to-fuel	3%	ND	ND	<20	0	
	$\pm 10\%$	7 - 8	3	25 - 40	1 - 3	
Water injection (H ₂ O/fuel ratio)	50%	25 - 35	2 - 4	ND	ND	
SCR		80 - 95	0	80 - 95	0	

Table 3.4-5.NOx REDUCTION AND FUEL CONSUMPTION PENALTIES FOR LARGE
STATIONARY DIESEL AND DUAL-FUEL ENGINES^a

^a References 1,27-28. The reductions shown are typical and will vary depending on the engine and duty cycle. SCC = Source Classification Code. Δ BSFC = change in brake-specific fuel consumption. ND = no data.

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