

# New milestones for crankcase gas cleaning technology

The success of the Alfdex system, the innovative solution for cleaning ventilation gases from diesel engine crankcases through centrifugal separation continues.

The system was developed jointly by Alfa Laval and Haldex, a leading provider of solutions to the global vehicle industry. The Alfdex activities are now managed by Alfdex AB, jointly owned by the two companies. Alfdex AB has previously signed agreements for the supply of Alfdex systems with both Scania and Volvo.

Recently, the DaimlerChrysler Group, the automotive industry giant with revenues of USD 192.3 billion in 2004, also signed a development cooperation and supply agreement with Alfdex AB. The order value is about SEK 250 million (approximately USD 32 million) over a five year period. Series deliveries are expected to start at the end of 2006.

DaimlerChrysler's intention is to integrate the Alfdex system into different engines based on a completely new and unique platform. The global agreement comprises DaimlerChrysler's three engine brands Detroit Diesel, Mitsubishi Fuso and Mercedes-Benz. These engines are used in DaimlerChrysler's truck brands Mercedes-Benz, Freightliner, Mitsubishi Fuso, Sterling Trucks and Western Star Trucks.

Mats Ekeröth, Managing Director of Alfdex, comments, "By the agreement with DaimlerChrysler, together with the previous agreements with Scania and Volvo, we have acquired a strong and solid position on a market that globally amounts to some USD 120 million annually."

The Alfdex system efficiently removes practically all oil droplets and soot particles from the ventilation gas in diesel engine crankcases, referred to as blow-by or crankcase gases. Environmental legislation is becoming increasingly demanding all over the world, and the Alfdex system has attracted a lot of attention already from the outset. Most manufacturers of small diesel engines in Europe, the US and other parts of the world have successfully tested or will test the system.

## Now also for ships and power plants

Alfa Laval is now taking the development of the Alfdex technology one step further by introducing the large capacity PureVent 3000 for marine and power plant applications. Interest in crankcase gas cleaning in this field comes from individuals such as ship crews and power plant employees who are regularly exposed to the gases. But government bodies and larger organisations are

also paying increasing attention to this matter.

So far there has been no sufficiently efficient solution for cleaning crankcase gases for the large capacities needed in the marine and power plant fields. None of the existing solutions based on cyclones, air traps or filters has provided satisfactory results. PureVent represents a radical new approach to crankcase gas cleaning on ships and in power plants. The presently available PureVent 3000 model is designed for engines with an output from 1 to 25 MW.

Wärtsilä is an important partner for Alfa Laval in the development and marketing of PureVent. The system has been thoroughly tested by Wärtsilä and is now included in the company's product range.

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Source: Alfa Laval Here