

Service Information No. 01 / 03

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Crankcase Oil Mist Detector for Engines with CAN-Bus

M43 / M32C

A reliable crankcase oil mist detection is an elemental constituent of our Diesel engines ensuring safe operation.

On our engines of the series M43 and M32C that are equipped with a CAN-Bus monitoring and safety system, this monitoring function is taken over reliably and trouble-free by the so-called "Tufmon" device.

Within the scope of the oil mist detector system development we ascertained that under special circumstances that normally can be excluded in Diesel engine operation there might be a situation where the device is incapable to detect an oil mist accumulation.

Although we see an only marginal risk that such a situation might occur in ship's operation, we have decided to retrofit all devices in service in a way that under all imaginable circumstances the oil mist detection will be working reliably. For this purpose the sensor box in the crankcase vent pipe and its evaluation unit must be replaced by a modified variant.

For organizational reasons retrofitting cannot be implemented at once on all engines concerned. To guarantee nevertheless safe oil mist detection under all circumstances, the additionally required function shall be realized via the existing warning notice for electronic disturbances. In parallel, however, it must be ensured that in case of disturbances that are actually occurring in the electronics, there will be no automatic engine stop influencing the ship's operation. For realization, in a first step our skilled MaK service staff will implement the necessary modifications on the "Tufmon" device and change the signals of the device for increased oil mist accumulation and electronic disturbances so that an automatic reduction of the engine is released.

We expressly declare that after occurrence of possible oil mist alarms the engine will then not be automatically stopped as recommended by us. In the event of a reduction released by the oil mist detection we urgently recommend to have the engine manually stopped by the ship's crew considering the current nautical situation. After that all engine inspections that are prescribed in case of an oil mist detection release are to be carried out with due observance of the safety measures.

The described modification of the installation is a merely temporary measure. As soon as a sufficient quantity of exchange devices will be available the original state of the crankcase oil mist detection will be reestablished.

We will contact you through the service organization supporting you to fix a date for the above-mentioned modifications.