

# Transportation Emissions Research and Regulations in the Face of Rapid Technology Changes

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CENTER FOR ADVANCING RESEARCH IN  
TRANSPORTATION EMISSIONS, ENERGY, AND HEALTH (CARTEEH)

A USDOT University Transportation Center



# Transportation Emissions Research & Regulations in the Face of Rapid Technology Changes

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POWERTRAIN ENGINEERING

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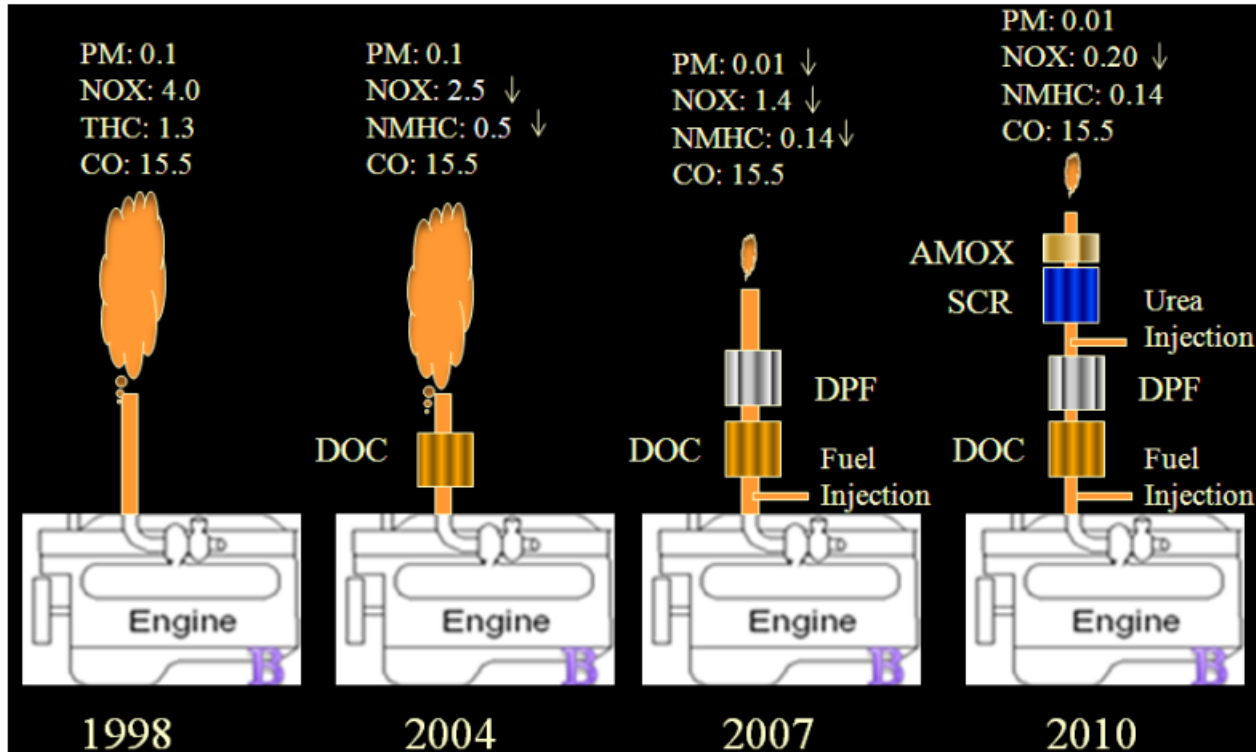
Space Science & Engineering



## Topical Coverage

- Heavy-Duty Diesel Engine Particle Emissions
- Light-Duty Gasoline Engine Particle Emissions
  - New Euro 7 regulations
  - New Tier 4 US Regulations
- H<sub>2</sub> ICE is not particle-free
- Brake & Tire Particle Emissions
  - New Euro 7 Regulations
- Li Ion Battery Fire
  - Fire Fighters and Public Concern
- New PM2.5 Ambient Standard
- Closing

# Emissions Reduction & Modern Diesel Engine (Chemical Plant in Engine Exhaust)

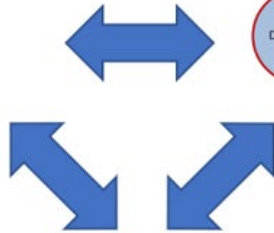


# The MORE Modern Diesel Engine (MORE of a Chemical Plant in Engine Exhaust)

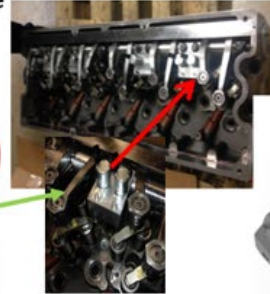
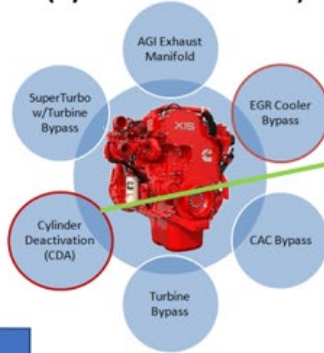
2017 Cummins X15 Engine



SAE Paper  
2021-01-0589



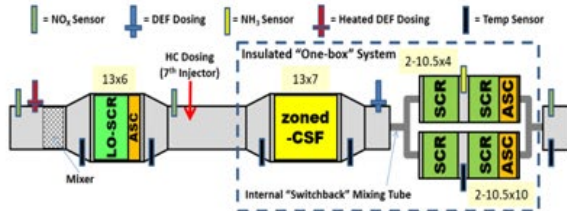
Additional Engine Hardware  
(Cylinder Deactivation)



Eaton CDA  
Hardware



Advanced Low  
Aftertreatment (Dual SCR-  
Dual Dosing)

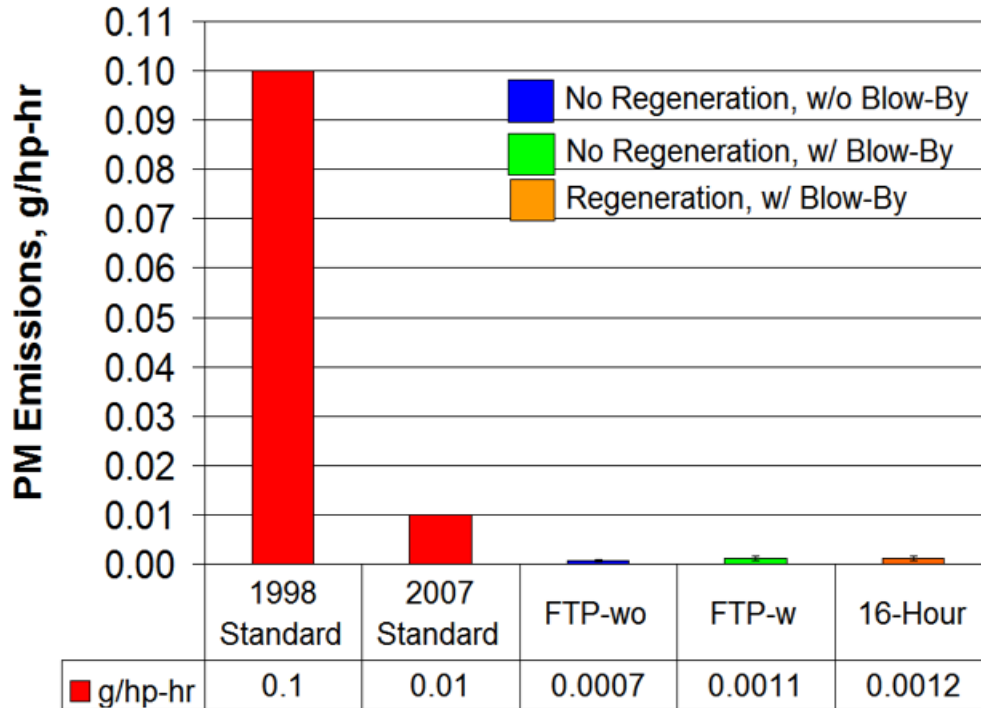


Targets:

- FTP/RMC NO<sub>x</sub> 0.02 g/hp-hr
- Lowest feasible LLC and in-use NO<sub>x</sub>
- No adverse GHG impact

2027 Regulations: 0.035 g/hp-hr, Lab Cert

# Diesel Engine Impressive Particulate Matter (PM) Emissions Reduction



Future Standard of 0.005 g/hp-hr (2024-2027)

- 90 percent reduction in PM emissions was mandated by US EPA for 2007 heavy-duty diesel engines and beyond
- High efficiency catalyzed wall-flow DPF technology selected by the engine manufacturers achieved **more than 99 percent reduction in PM mass** emissions relative to 1998 engine technology
- The composition of the PM left is dominated by organic & inorganic semivolatile/volatile compounds

# Diesel Engine is an Ambient Air Cleaner for Solid Particles Down to 10 nm

At 99.9% efficiency, solid exhaust particle concentration can be on the order of 500-5,000 particle/cm<sup>3</sup> for diesel.

Particle size class	Particle size range	Particle number before filter	Particle number after filter	Penetration [%]	Filtration efficiency [%]
1	15.4	1.33E+05	0.00E+00	0.000%	100.000%
2	20.5	6.93E+05	1.96E+02	0.028%	99.972%
3	27.4	2.01E+06	2.39E+02	0.012%	99.988%
4	36.5	4.20E+06	6.62E+02	0.016%	99.984%
5	48.7	6.49E+06	6.60E+02	0.010%	99.990%
6	64.9	8.36E+06	5.69E+02	0.007%	99.993%
7	86.6	8.82E+06	5.23E+02	0.006%	99.994%
8	115.5	7.60E+06	2.86E+02	0.004%	99.996%
9	154	5.30E+06	2.19E+02	0.004%	99.996%
10	205.4	2.82E+06	1.89E+02	0.007%	99.993%
11	273.9	8.80E+05	2.45E+02	0.028%	99.972%
overall		4.63E+07	3.54E+03	0.008%	99.992%



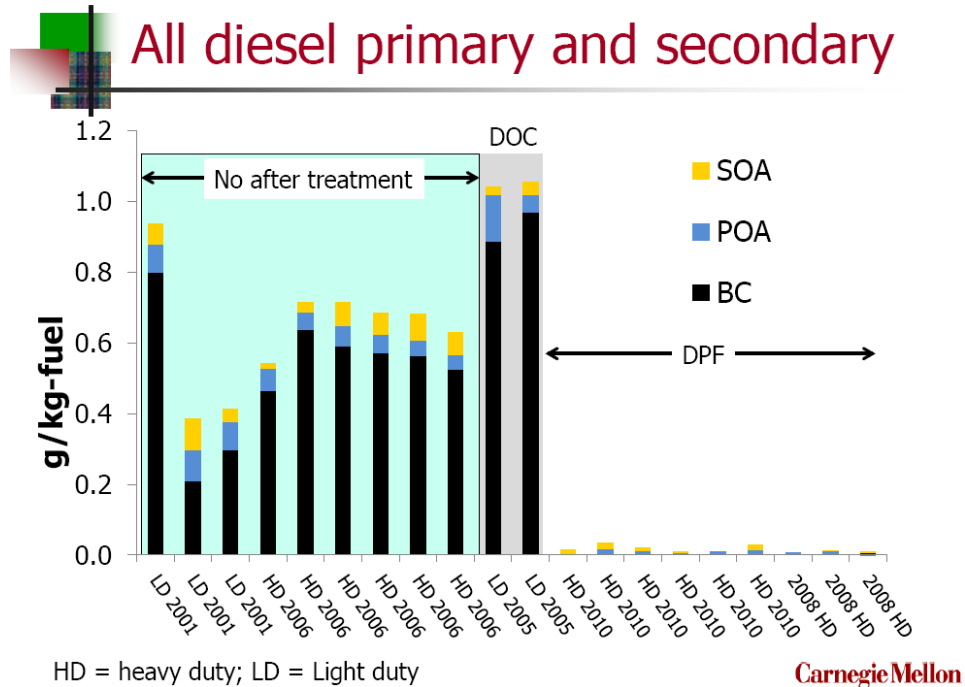
# Significant Unregulated Emissions Benefit

Compounds	% Lower Than 2004 Engine Technology	
	16-Hour Cycle	CARBx-ICT
Single Ring Aromatics	82%	69%
PAH	79%	26%
Nitro-PAH	81%	49%
Alkanes	85%	84%
Polar	81%	12%
Hopanes/Steranes	99%	99%
Carbonyls	98%	78%
Inorganic Ions	38%	100%
Metals and Elements	98%	90%
Organic Carbon	96%	78%
Elemental Carbon	99%	100%
Dioxins/Furans <sup>a</sup>	99%	N/A

<sup>a</sup> Relative to 1998 Engine Technology

Due to the presence of exhaust SCR catalyst for NOX reduction in 2010 engines, NO<sub>x</sub> as well as NO<sub>2</sub> are at least 90% lower than 2004 technology engines

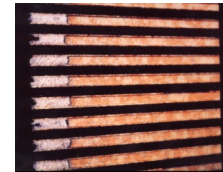
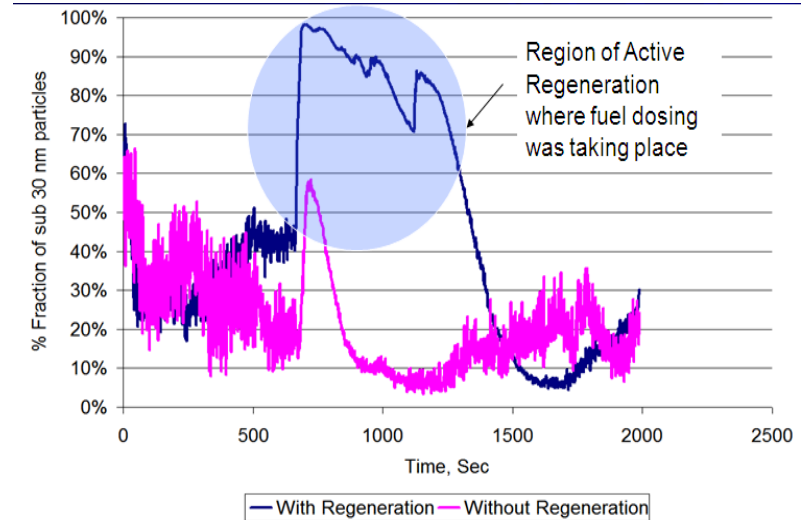
# Reduction in Secondary Organic Aerosol Formation



Robinson et al., 22<sup>nd</sup> CRC Real World Emissions Workshop,  
San Diego, CA, March 25-28, 2012

# Three Problem Areas Arise from using Exhaust Filters

1. Volatile particle formation during regeneration
  1. Sulfuric acid is the trigger. **We need ZERO sulfur fuel**
2. Ash loading on the filter, raising backpressure & require infrequent manual cleaning
  1. Lube oil ash is culprit. **We need ASHLESS lube oil**
3. In-use failure (cracks, leaks, **tampering**, etc..)
  1. We need continuous emissions monitoring via sensors to tackle this issue
    1. **SwRI has been working on particle sensors for onboard monitoring through SwRI Particle Sensor Performance & Durability (PSPD) consortium since 2011**



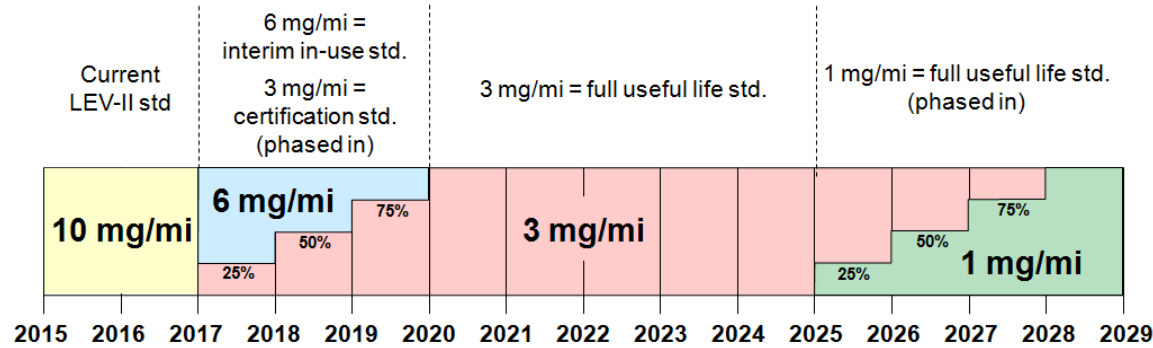
<https://www.swri.org/swri-automotive-webinar-obd>

# Diesel Exhaust Summary

- Drastic reduction in tailpipe NOx emissions is coming in 2027
- Diesel engines equipped with high-efficiency DPF can clean the air from solid particles
- Formation of sub 30 nm volatile particles that is high in number
- Ash in lube oil
- Tampering
  - ~2% of heavy-duty vehicles inspected in California were recently cited for tampering with the exhaust aftertreatment system
    - If exhaust filter is removed, each vehicle will emit as much as 1000 vehicles with filters
- New regulations will cut PM emissions by 50%. This should not impact heavy-duty on-highway engine, but it will force nonroad engines to use DPF
- Renewable & Biofuels (not covered) can play a drastic role in reducing GHG emissions on a life cycle analysis basis.

# Light-Duty Gasoline Vehicles-Current Regulations

- CARB LEV III and US Tier 3 Regulations (Particle Mass Only)
  - No Gasoline Particle Filter (GPF) required



CARB LEVI III only

- Euro 6 (Solid Number and Mass)
  - 4.5 mg/km
  - $6 \times 10^{12}$  part/km (2014-2016)
  - $6 \times 10^{11}$  part/km in **2017** for Particle > 23 nm (~50% below 2025 CARB LEV III)
  - GPF required for Euro 6 starting 2017

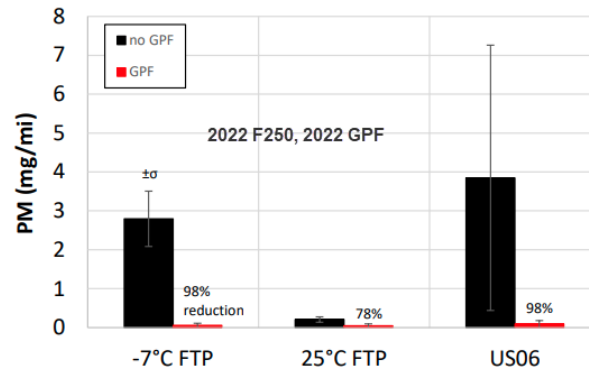
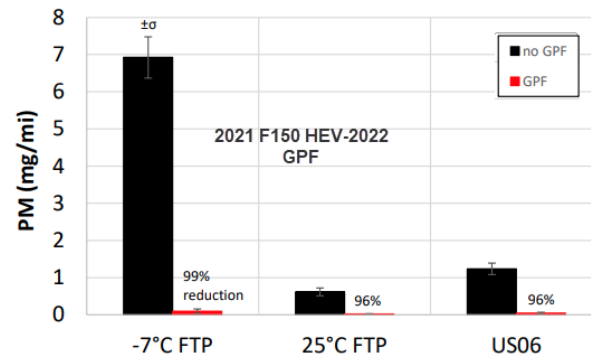
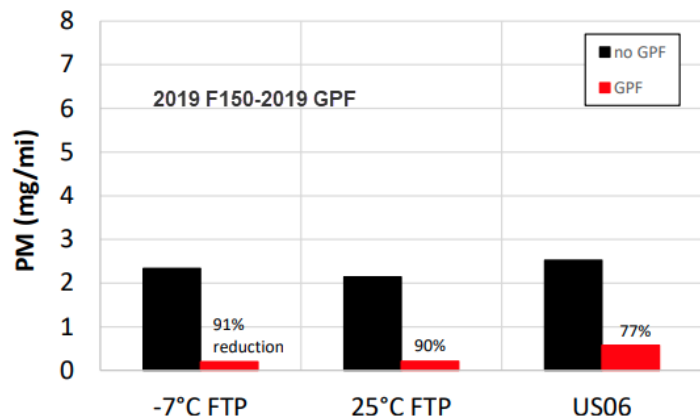
# Light-Duty-New Particle Regulations

- US EPA Tier 4.....2032+
  - PM mass at 0.5 mg/mi (~ equivalent to EU in 2017)
  - Vehicles **likely to require a GPF** because the regulation applies at -7 °C
- Euro 7.....2030-2032+
  - Solid Particle Number Emission is at  $6 \times 10^{11}$  part./km for particles > **10 nm**. This applies to all vehicle types.
  - More stringent than Euro 6
  - US Direct injection gasoline engines emits much high PM compared to EU between 2017-2032

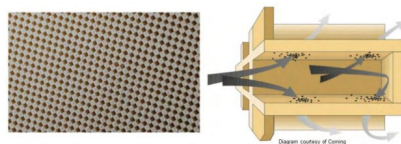
Model Year	US EPA				CARB			
	FTP, -7°C	FTP, 25°C	US06, 25°C	Phase In	FTP, -7°C	FTP, 25°C	US06, 25°C	Phase In
2024	N/A	3	6	Tier 3	N/A	3	6	Tier 3
2025	N/A	3	6	Tier 3	N/A	1	6 <sup>b</sup>	25%
2026	N/A	3	6	Tier 3	N/A	1	6 <sup>b</sup>	50%
2027	N/A	3	6	Tier 3	N/A	1	6 <sup>b</sup>	75%
2028	N/A	3	6	Tier 3	N/A	1	6 <sup>b</sup>	100%
2029	N/A	3	6	Tier 3	N/A	1	6 <sup>b</sup>	100%
2030	N/A	3	6	Tier 3	N/A	1	6 <sup>b</sup>	100%
2031	N/A	3	6	Tier 3	N/A	1	6 <sup>b</sup>	100%
2032	0.5 <sup>a</sup>	0.5 <sup>a</sup>	0.5 <sup>a</sup>	Tier 4	0.5 <sup>a</sup>	0.5 <sup>a</sup>	0.5 <sup>a</sup>	Tier 4

<sup>a</sup> Emissions Cap, <sup>b</sup> No Phase in

# Approaches to Meeting US Tier 4 PM Standards : Gasoline Particle Filter (GPF)



- EPA demonstrated meeting the standard in the Draft Regulatory Impact Analysis (DRIA) using GPFs
- PM emissions reported well below 0.5 mg/mi with new technology GPFs
- GPF was shown to decrease PAHs and off-cycle emissions



# Other Possible Approaches to Reduce PM/PN, WLTC, E-Fuel

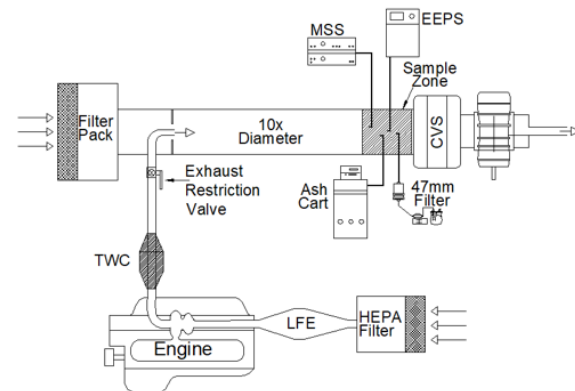
- One can get significant reduction in all particle metrics using E-Fuel with ultra low PM Index (PMI)

$$PM\ Index = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{DBE_i + 1}{VP(443K)_i} \times Wt_i \right)$$

	EPA Tier 3 Cert Fuel, PMI 2.4						
Test Name	Soot Mass	SPN23	SPN10	Ash	PM	EEPS	SPN10-SPN23
F1, mg/#/kW-hr	55.71	6.9E+13	1.1E+14	9.9E+12	79.7	2.3E+14	3.9E+13
Stdev, mg/#/kW-hr	4.38	5.9E+12	1.4E+13	7.7E+11	5.3	3.1E+13	
COV, %	0.08	8.6E-02	1.2E-01	7.8E-02	0.1	1.3E-01	
	<b>% Change Relative to EPA Fuel</b>						
	CARB LEV III Cert Fuel, PMI 1.23						
F2	-42.6%	-51.1%	-16.4%	-38.2%	-34.4%	25.1%	44.2%
	E-Fuel with Ultra Low PMI of 0.27						
F3	-95.3%	-86.0%	-84.3%	-87.3%	-91.2%	-74.0%	-81.2%

Drop-in E-Fuel with Ultra Low PMI can benefit existing fleet by reducing PM/PN emissions and greenhouse gas

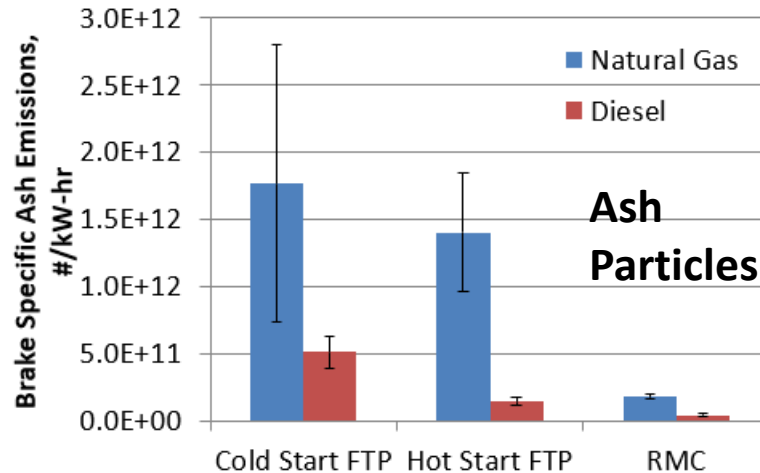
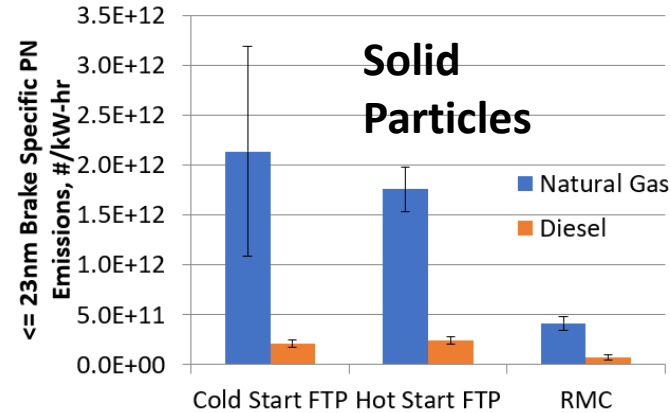
- 2018 Ford Ecoboost, turbocharger, direct injection engine
- 2.3 L, 310 hp/350 ft.lb torque at 3,000 rpm
- Used in MY 2018 Ford Mustang





# Other Combustion Sources-High on Number, Low on Mass

- Natural Gas ICE
  - Large number of solid particles below 23 nm in diameter-Lube Oil Ash
- H<sub>2</sub> ICE
  - Similar findings in H<sub>2</sub> ICE and other soot-free or low soot emitting engines
- Jet Engines
  - Large number to mass ratio, compared with diesel and gasoline (two orders of magnitude higher)



# Gasoline Exhaust Summary

- Gasoline engine particle emissions are much more stringent in the EU than the USA
- US EPA does not regulate on particle number (PN) and continue to focus on PM mass
  - US EPA regulates PN only for aircraft engines
- Particle number metric is different than the mass metric
  - We could see cases of very low PM mass but high particle number
    - PFI Gasoline, natural gas, H<sub>2</sub>-ICE & others

**Should the US regulate particle emissions using the number and mass metrics. The number metric is already used for aircraft, why not for automotive?**

# Other Outstanding Elephant in the Room **New** Particle Emissions Issues

- Brake Particle Emissions
- Tire Abrasion
- Euro 7 includes brake emissions and tire abrasion
  - Brake emissions cycle has been developed and completed
  - Tire abrasion method has been finalized
- No US regulations in the horizon on brake and tire emissions
  - Interest is there



# Brake and Tire Wear Expected to Dominate PM Emissions from Mobile Sources

- Diesel and Gasoline Exhaust Particulate Filters (DPF & GPF) have SIGNIFICANTLY reduced exhaust PM. Tire & Brake PM become DOMINANT emitters
- EV may be Worse than ICEV

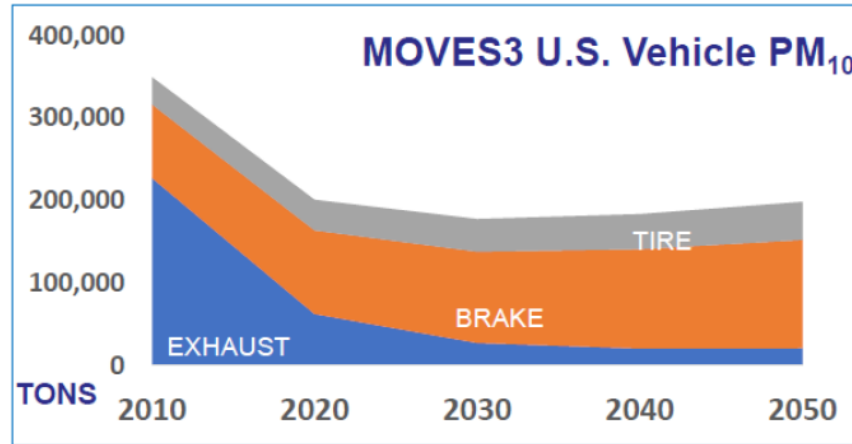


FIGURE 8. EXHAUST, BRAKE AND TIRE PM<sub>10</sub> AS PROJECTED BY MOVES IN USA

<sup>17</sup> Koupal et al., "New Research on Brake Wear Particulate Matter Emissions from Several Heavy-Duty Truck Vocations in California," 32<sup>nd</sup> CRC Workshop, March 13-16, 2022.

Comparison between expected PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions of EVs, gasoline and diesel ICEVs.

Vehicle technology	Exhaust	Tyre wear	Brake wear	Road wear	Resuspension	Total
EV	0 mg/vkm	3.7 mg/vkm	0 mg/vkm	3.8 mg/vkm	14.9 mg/vkm	<b>22.4 mg/vkm</b>
Gasoline ICEV	3.0 mg/vkm	2.9 mg/vkm	2.2 mg/vkm	3.1 mg/vkm	12.0 mg/vkm	<b>23.2 mg/vkm</b>
Diesel ICEV	2.4 mg/vkm	2.9 mg/vkm	2.2 mg/vkm	3.1 mg/vkm	12.0 mg/vkm	<b>22.6 mg/vkm</b>

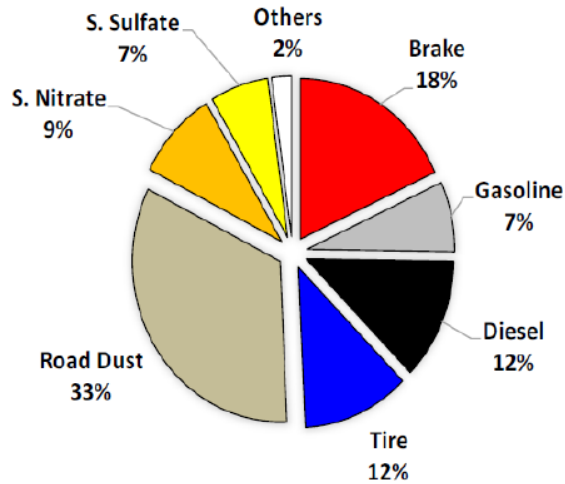
Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)  
**Atmospheric Environment**  
 journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/atmosenv](https://www.elsevier.com/locate/atmosenv)

Review article  
 Non-exhaust PM emissions from electric vehicles  
 Victor R.J.H. Timmers <sup>a,\*</sup>, Peter A.J. Achten <sup>b</sup>

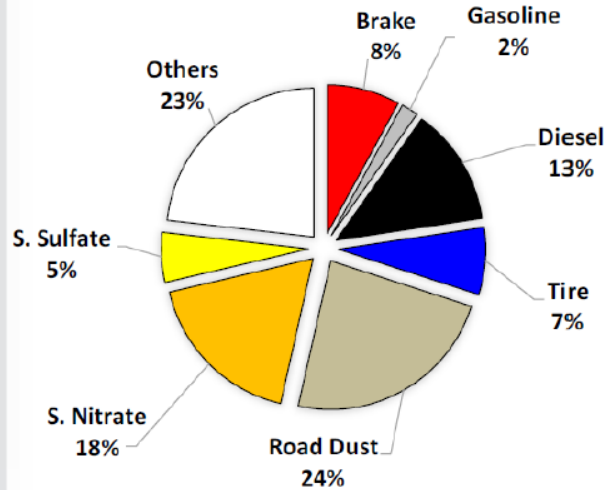
<sup>a</sup> University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam 1099 XH, The Netherlands  
<sup>b</sup> Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels 1050, Belgium

# Near Roadway PM Composition in California

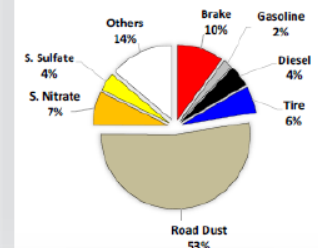
I-5 Coast Corvette, PM<sub>2.5</sub> (10.9 μg m<sup>-3</sup>)



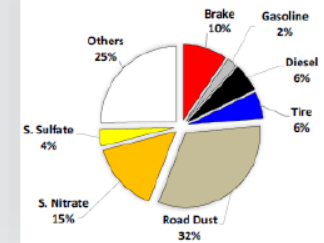
Hwy-710 AQMD, PM<sub>2.5</sub> (14.4 μg m<sup>-3</sup>)



I-5 Coast Corvette, PM<sub>10</sub> (32.5 μg m<sup>-3</sup>)



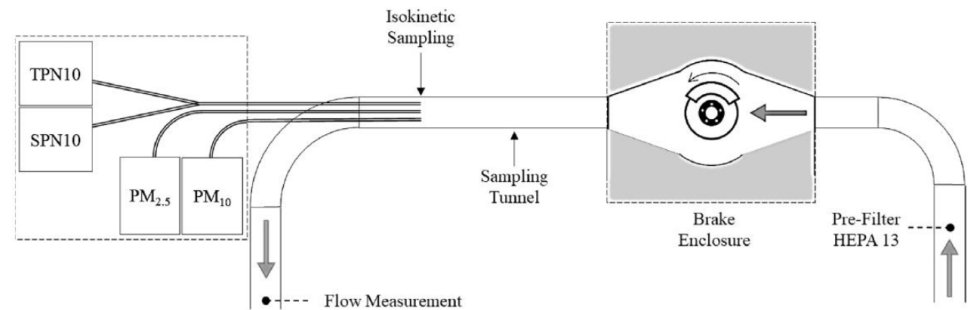
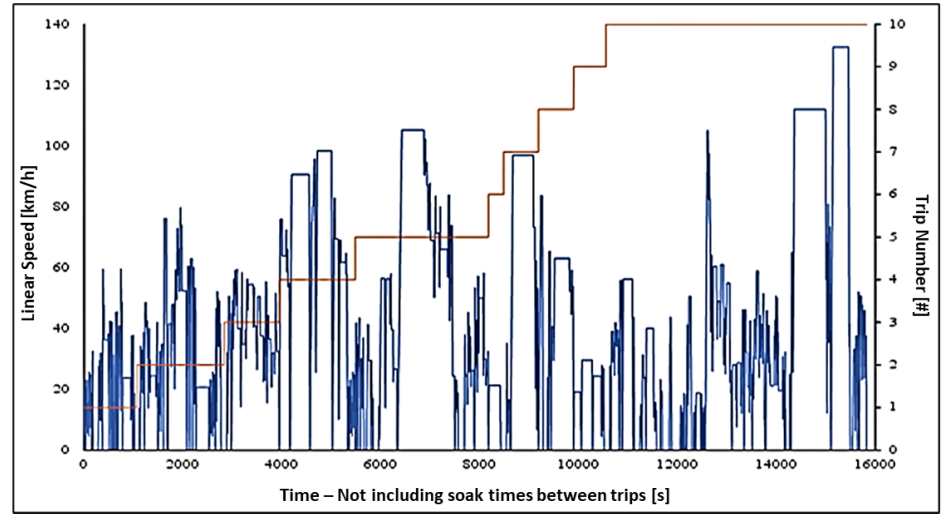
Hwy-710 AQMD, PM<sub>10</sub> (31.9 μg m<sup>-3</sup>)



Lopez et al., “Elemental Content of Brake and Tire Wear PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub> at Near-Road Environments” CRC Real World Emissions Workshop, 2023

# Euro 7 Light-Duty Brake Particle Emissions

- Brake emissions limit at 7 mg/km for ICE starting in ~2027
- 3 mg/km for EVs starting in ~2027
- 3 mg/km for all powertrains starting in 2035

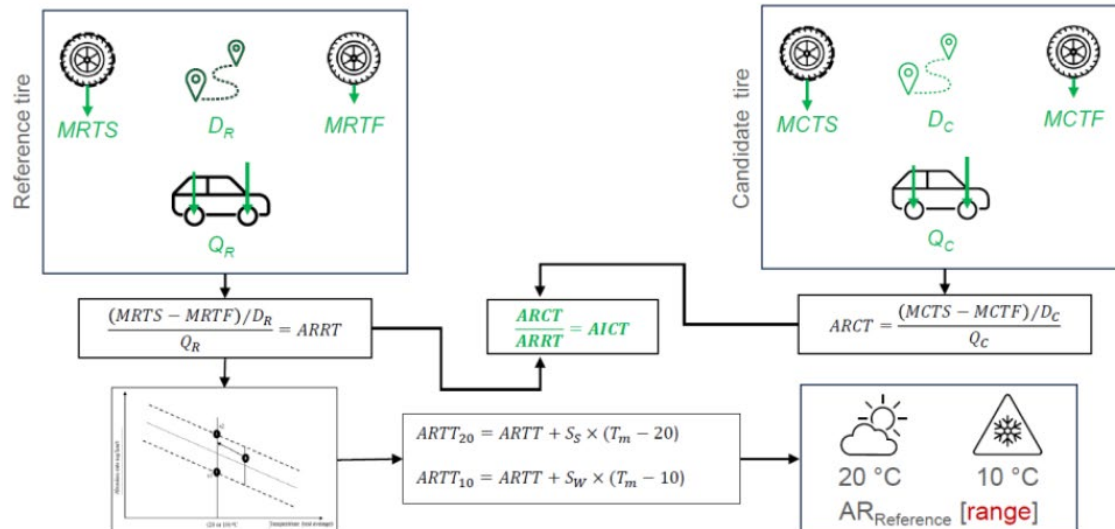


# Euro 7 Tire Emissions (Abrasion)

- Conduct a review on tire abrasion before 2025 and define a limit by **mid-2026** through the UN WP.29
  - Objective is to reduce microplastics by 30% by 2030

## Flowchart for abrasion rates and abrasion index

calculations include mass loss, test distance, tire loads, and validation with reference tire wear



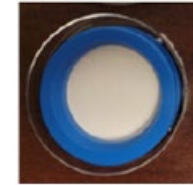
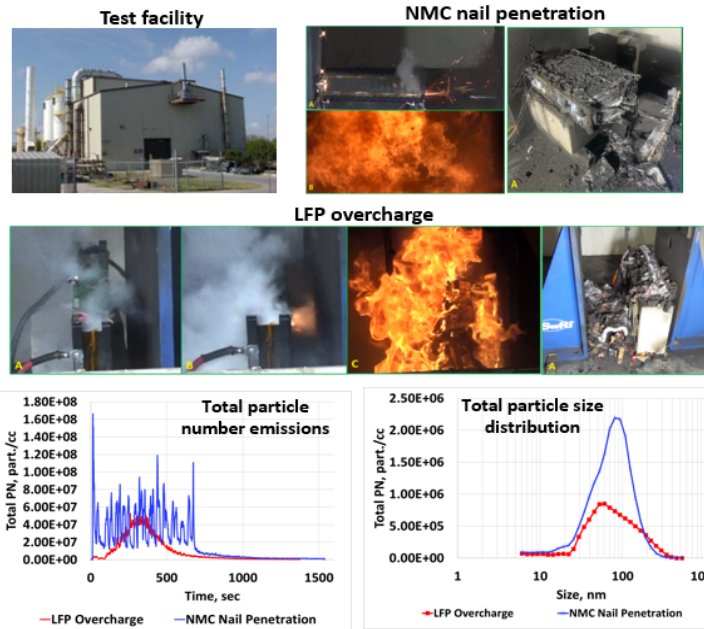
## Brake and Tire Particle Emissions Summary

- Brake and Tire Particle Emissions will dominate going forward
- The EU has developed a standard for Brake emissions and work in progress on tire abrasion
- No regulations on the horizon in the USA yet

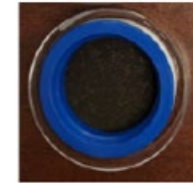


# Other Non-Exhaust Safety Concern- EV BATTERY RUNAWAY FIRE

- Lithium-ion (Li-ion) batteries are widely used due to their high energy density and specific energy capacity – which makes them a safety concern
- There have been several battery fire incidents in the last few months
- Critically important to understand emissions to equip first responders with appropriate PPE, understand human and environmental impact
  - Especially with rapid electrification in the mobility sector
- Significant release of particulate and gaseous emissions were observed during thermal runaway
  - Particles were in the respirable size range with peak levels in the ultrafine size scale (sub 100 nm)



Background PM filter



PM Filter for Test 4

Vinay Premnath, Yanyu Wang, Nolan Wright, Imad Khalek & Steven Uribe (2022) Detailed characterization of particle emissions from battery fires, *Aerosol Science and Technology*, 56:4, 337-354, DOI: [10.1080/02786826.2021.2018399](https://doi.org/10.1080/02786826.2021.2018399)

Single small battery fire event can emit **4 orders of magnitude** higher particle number than a heavy-duty truck engine or equivalent to **one million miles of truck operation!**

## Li Battery Runaway Fire

- Topic is an important health concern due to the highly concentrated exposure in a short period of time
- We are currently doing more work on this subject with support from TEEEX
  - Detailed Emissions Characterization of Battery Fire
    - PM mass, soot mass, size and number
    - Metals and SVOCs
    - Gases
    - Fire fighter gear exposure & analysis

## Final Thoughts

- With the more stringent EPA ambient PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard at 9 μg/m<sup>3</sup>, some of the sources discussed here will contribute to nonattainment zones that will likely be identified in late 2025.

# Questions

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