

MOE'S OPERATING TIPS



Moe Tarrabain
Director of Service Operations

ENGINE COOLANT BASICS

With our winter months just around the corner this is the time to make sure the cooling system gets checked over. The following are some things to look out for:

- Use a 50/50 mix year round
- Always top up with a premixed solution
- Check coolant level daily
- Keep external radiator fins free of debris
- Check for bent or missing fan blades
- Check fan shroud for proper clearance to fan blade
- Check drive belts and pulleys and make sure if water pump is belt driven that belt tension is within specifications
- Check all hoses and hose clamps
- Check for coolant leaks and repair as required
- Check the radiator pressure cap

Engine coolants are designed to :

- Remove excess heat from the engine
- Protect the engine components from corrosion
- Protect the engine from freeze damage in cold weather
- Prevent wet sleeve liner cavitations in diesel engines
- Increase boiling point of coolant

Since coolant cannot be identified by color alone, you must be careful not to mix incompatible coolants or add a coolant that is inappropriate for the truck application. Typical over the counter automotive coolant should not be used in a heavy-duty truck applications because it doesn't have the right additives. When in doubt flush out the cooling system. Always consider truck application when choosing coolants. Each type of coolant has unique maintenance requirements. Follow manufactures guidelines.

Note: Coolant is clear when manufactured, dye is added for color. There are currently two shades of orange, green, dark green, yellow , blue , blue green, purple, purple pink, and red. Coolant maintenance decisions should not be decided by color. Please feel free to contact one of our First Truck Service representatives if you have any questions.