

FIX-N-FAX #59

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

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Fire Pump Primer Lubricants (Biodegradable)

This Fix-N-Fax identifies environmentally acceptable biodegradable lubricants for use in fire pump primer systems on CDF's fire apparatus.

Recommended biodegradable lubricants by manufacturer and model:

- Hale SMV-12 fire pump primer system:
Clean water is effective to replace other lubricants in warm climates. In freezing climates, a mixture of water and propylene glycol base antifreeze will be equally effective. Propylene glycol is non-toxic and environmentally friendly and readily available in automotive supply stores. Brand names are: "SIERRA", "CAMCO-RV" and "MARINE" antifreeze.
- W.S. Darley & Company V-90 fire pump primer system:
"Prime Green" (#AD-101), a non-toxic biodegradable lubricant, is recommended. Available through all suppliers of Darley pump parts.
- Optional biodegradable lubricant for use in either Hale (SMV-12) or Darley (V-90) systems. "BIO-HY-GARD", TY22043, is over 80% biodegradable and 100% compatible with mineral-base oils, so will mix in older apparatus. It is manufactured for and available from Deere & Company (any John Deere dealer).

NOTE: Contact your local Fleet Manager for details and procedures when converting a priming system from motor oil to the appropriate biodegradable option.

INFORMATION:

In the future (approximately 1997), CDF will start receiving Fire Apparatus with the new "Oil-Less Fire Pump Priming systems" identified by the absence of the traditional oil reservoir tank.

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