



Emissions Control FAQs

- **What determines if an engine must be catalyzed?**
 - A mandate from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) stipulates that beginning in 2008 any engine sold in the state must achieve a combined 75 percent reduction in hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides. The only way to reach that emissions level is to fit the engines with catalytic converters. Any engine with a manufactured date on or after January 1, 2008, to be sold in the state of California must be catalyzed. The one exception to this rule is 4.3L engines, which are covered by an exemption. Engines sold in California must be CARB-certified. For more information, visit the California Air Resources Board Web site at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/homepage.htm>.

- **Can I register my boat outside of California if I live in California?**
 - Many states require the boat to be registered in the state it is primarily used. Arizona allows for non-Arizona residents to register their boat in Arizona if it is used and kept there. For more information, visit the California Air Resources Board Web site at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/homepage.htm>.

- **If I live in another state and buy a boat with a non-catalyzed engine, can I use that boat in California?**
 - Yes, you can use your boat in California as long as your boat is registered in another state. For more information, visit the California Air Resources Board Web site at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/homepage.htm>.

- **If I register my boat after January 1, 2008, in California, does it have to have a catalyzed engine?**
 - If the engine was manufactured before January 1, 2008, you are not required to have a catalyzed engine. For more information, visit the California Air Resources Board Web site at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/homepage.htm>.

- **What engines will be catalyzed beginning January 1, 2008?**
 - MerCruiser will offer catalyzed versions of most of its fuel-injected products ranging from the 3.0 MPI to the 496 Mag HO. The exceptions are the 4.3L and 4.3 MPI engines that fall under a special exemption and will not be catalyzed at this time.
 - All sterndrive and inboard gas engines over 500 horsepower are also exempt until 2009. Mercury Racing sterndrive engines do not require catalyzed.
 - For more information, visit the California Air Resources Board Web site at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/homepage.htm>.

- **If I buy a boat from a dealer in late 2008 and it has non-catalyzed engines, can I use that boat in California?**
 - If the engines were manufactured before January 1, 2008, you can register and use it in California. As long as it carries a CARB emissions label and star tag on the engine, it can be registered in California. For more information, visit the California Air Resources Board Web site at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/homepage.htm>.

- **If I move into California with a 2008 or later non-catalyzed engine, can I register or use that boat in California?**
 - If you move into the state, you can register any boat you bring into the state at that time, as long as it was registered previously in another state. For more information, visit the California Air Resources Board Web site at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/homepage.htm>.
- **If I purchase a remanufactured engine, does it have to be catalyzed?**
 - A remanufactured engine must meet the emissions regulations for the year it was originally manufactured. If the original engine was manufactured before January 1, 2008, it is not required to be catalyzed. For more information, visit the California Air Resources Board Web site at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/homepage.htm>.

Product- and Service-Related FAQs

- **What components are considered emission-related and covered under the three-year warranty? What are the specific terms of this warranty?**
 - Select emissions control parts are covered specifically by the California Emissions Limited Warranty and are warranted for three years or 480 hours of operation, whichever occurs first.
 - Specific components covered under this warranty include:
 - Fuel metering system
 - Air induction system
 - Ignition system
 - Lubrication system components
 - Crankcase ventilation system
 - Exhaust system
 - Catalyst or thermal reactor systems
 - Miscellaneous items – e.g. hose clamps
 - Maintenance items are not included, such as:
 - Oil
 - Filters
 - Spark plugs
 - A copy of the California Emissions Limited Warranty will be included from the factory with each new engine manufactured after January 1, 2008. Refer to this warranty for specific details.
- **Are there special service or operating requirements that dealers or consumers should be aware of, such as special oils, fuels, winterizing procedures, etc.?**
 - There are no changes to our current fuel requirements for non-catalyzed engines.
 - General winterizing procedures are unchanged for catalyst-equipped engines.
 - The catalyzed engines should not run out of fuel; this may damage the catalyst. Refer to the engine's user manuals and warranty for specific details.

IMPORTANT: If you are operating an engine equipped with Emissions Control, be aware that some oils can damage the catalyst. Although many marine-grade lubricants allow for acceptable engine performance, some contain high levels of phosphorus. Long-term exposure to these high-phosphorus oils will damage the catalyst. Catalysts damaged by lubricants containing high levels of phosphorus may not be covered by the MerCruiser Limited Warranty.

To help obtain optimum engine performance and to provide maximum protection, we recommend using the following oil:

- * Mercury MerCruiser Full-Synthetic Engine Oil, 20W-40, NMMA FC-W rated

If the Mercury MerCruiser Full-Synthetic, 20W-40 oil is unavailable, you can use the following lubricants, listed in order of recommendation:

IMPORTANT: If you are servicing a catalyst engine, and the Mercury MerCruiser Full-Synthetic, 20W-40 oil is unavailable, you can still use these lubricants, listed in order of recommendation, but only for short periods of time.

1. Mercury/Quicksilver 25W-40 Synthetic Blend, NMMA FC-W-rated 4-cycle MerCruiser oil
2. Mercury/Quicksilver 25W-40, NMMA FC-W-rated 4-cycle MerCruiser oil
3. Other recognized brands of NMMA FC-W-rated 4-cycle oils
4. A good-grade, straight-weight detergent automotive oil per the operating chart below.

NOTE: We do not recommend non-detergent oils, multi-viscosity oils (other than as specified), non FC-W-rated synthetic oils, low-quality oils, or oils that contain solid additives.

