

Oil Life Increased Over 50% on Land Rig Gen Sets



Spinner II® Centrifuges Extend Drain Intervals

Scenario

It's no secret that the workhorse engine for gen set applications in land-based oil and gas drilling rigs is the 16-cylinder Cat 6.25 bore D399. Now succeeded by the 3500 series, many rigs are still running the D379, D398 and D399 diesel, even though this engine design was first introduced in the late 1950's.

Much of the credit for the success and durability of this engine is due to the widespread application of the Spinner II self-powered centrifuge by drilling contractors. The centrifuge traps abrasive particulate in sizes ranging from 0.5 microns and above. Controlling this wear-causing debris is the key to extending both oil and engine life.

Despite the broad acceptance of Spinner II centrifuges, there are a number of land rig operators who are just now beginning to experience the benefits this oil-cleaning tool delivers. For definitive proof, one internationally known drilling contractor in Tulsa, OK, conducted a thorough field study.



Solution

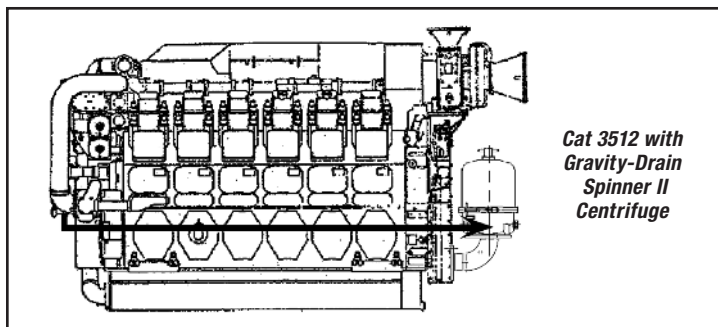
A Spinner II centrifuge was installed on a Cat D399 gen set in Columbia for an 18-month study of oil durability. In conducting the study, the drilling contractor engaged a consultant to explore the durability of both conventional mineral oils as well as synthetic formulations, both used in concert with the Spinner II centrifuge.

Results

Samples of both conventional mineral and synthetic oils were tested and analyzed. Here is an excerpt from the final report:

Engine:	Caterpillar D399	Engine:	Caterpillar D399
Identification:	Unit 2	Identification:	Unit 5
Total Hours:	26,492	Total Hours:	27,215
Hours on Oil:	1,700 (standard. service: 1,000 hours)	Hours on Oil:	6,730 (standard. service: none)
Oil Type:	Mineral	Oil Type:	Synthetic
Assessment:	Continue in Service	Assessment:	Continue in Service

By separating harmful wear debris from lube oil, the Spinner II centrifuge extends engine component life and oil service intervals, resulting in considerable operating cost savings. This test proved extended oil durability could reduce waste oil disposal problems with mineral oil by over 1,500 gallons per year for every land rig. The drilling contractor has made a fleet-wide commitment to install the Spinner II centrifuge and extend lube service intervals with mineral oils.



Cat 3512 with Gravity-Drain Spinner II Centrifuge

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SPINNER II® Oil-Cleaning Centrifuges