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Second edition  
2013-03-15

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## **Diesel engines — Cleanliness assessment of fuel injection equipment**

*Moteurs diesels — Évaluation de propreté pour équipement  
d'injection de combustible*



Reference number  
ISO 12345:2013(E)

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Published in Switzerland

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 12345 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 22, *Road vehicles*, Subcommittee SC 7, *Injection equipment and filters for use on road vehicles*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 12345:2002), which has been technically revised.

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## Introduction

Modern fuel injection systems contain many closely controlled clearances and rely on the fuel-flowing characteristics of small orifices; thus they require the close control of sources of contamination in order to maintain the operational performance demanded of them throughout their design life. To this end, such systems are designed with integral fuel-filtration equipment, which reduces the amount of potentially damaging debris that could enter the system from external sources.

However, contamination of the fuel injection system can also occur internally, from system use or wear, from equipment servicing, or as a result of the original supplier's manufacturing and assembly processes. The focus of this International Standard is on the latter source of contamination, and is thus concerned with the assessment of the cleanliness of the fuel injection equipment as originally supplied to the engine manufacturer.

Fuel injection systems comprise a number of components. Traditional systems contain low pressure elements (fuel tank, pipe-work, filters, lift pump, etc.), a fuel injection pump, high-pressure pipes and fuel injectors, located within the engine cylinder head.

During the preparation of this International Standard, the importance of care in the handling and measurement of contamination samples was clearly recognized. Moreover, the low levels of contaminant with fuel injection equipment makes this a particularly difficult task. For this International Standard to be used meaningfully - as an indicator of component cleanliness and a driver towards higher quality standards - extreme attention to detail is required of the user. Verification requirements for the test equipment used are therefore emphasized, in detail.

It is not always clear what level and type of cleanliness would be beneficial for improved performance and life on a cost-effective basis. The actual quantitative levels can only be set in relation to other parameters, agreed between the manufacturer, supplier and user. This International Standard provides a set of procedures for evaluating the cleanliness of fuel injection equipment and a framework for a common measurement and reporting.