

OEM APPROVALS

GENERAL MOTORS - HOLDEN
3 JULY, 2007

GM Holden recognises the potential environmental benefit of Biodiesel. However, diesel fuel quality is an increasingly important issue as GM Holden enters the passenger diesel market.

Holden's general position is in line with the World-Wide Fuel Charter view that the Fatty Acid Methyl Esters (FAME) are acceptable when blended with conventional diesel fuel up to 5% (v/v) known as "B5".

The recently launched Astra CDTi diesel carries full warranty when properly formulated B5 is used. Please note that Isuzu-sourced vehicles, such as the Holden Rodeo, are still being evaluated for B5 suitability and are not currently covered by the Holden New Vehicle Warranty.

At higher levels in diesel fuels (eg. "B20"), or as a pure fuel ("B100"), vehicles will need to be adapted to the fuel and particular care is needed to avoid fuel system component and engine performance problems. Biodiesel is more prone to oxidation and polymerisation; hence fuel dilution of engine oil is a potential problem.

At present some level of caution must be exercised. Customers should be aware that usage of Biodiesel containing more than 5% FAME may cause serious damage to your vehicle and may void your New Vehicle Warranty. It is envisaged that current technical problems can be overcome in the future with suitable engine development programs.



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