

# Frequently Asked Questions In-Use Off-Road Diesel Vehicle Regulation

## Definition of Engine Model Year and How It Can Be Determined

### Q – What is meant by engine model year?

A – The engine model year is determined by the *annual new model production period* during which the engine was produced. The *annual new model production period* (according to Title 40, CFR, § 89.2 and Title 13, CCR, § 2421(a)(37)) is defined as:

- ✍ Engines manufactured from January 2 of one year through December 31 of the following year; or
- ✍ The calendar year that it was produced in.

Therefore, for example, a 2008 model year engine can not be produced after December 31, 2008, but could have been produced in 2007 (except for January 1, 2007).

### Q – Can the vehicle model year be different than the engine model year?

A – Yes. Once an engine is produced legally, it can be sold indefinitely. Therefore, for example, a 2008 model year vehicle could contain a model year 2006 engine.

### Q – How can I figure out what my engine model year is?

A – Since off-road engines have been certified (1996), the convention for engine family name has been that the engine family name begins with the model year, which is represented by a character or a number. From 1996 to 2000, the following engine model years were represented by the following characters.

- ✍ 1996 - T
- ✍ 1997 - V
- ✍ 1998 - W
- ✍ 1999 - X
- ✍ 2000 – Y

In 2001, the engine model year was represented by a number at the beginning of the family name. Therefore, for example, a model year 2001 engine would have an engine family name beginning with 1. In 2010, they

may switch back to letters. EPA and ARB use the same engine family convention.

Prior to 1996, for Tier 0 engines, there are no engine family names.

If the model year of an engine is unknown because it is missing a serial number, manufacturer's build code, and/or an engine family number, the fleet owner should check with the engine manufacturer or their authorized representative (such as a dealer). Some OEM's will provide this information, because they track which engines are in the equipment by model serial number. If a manufacturer or dealer can bracket the model year of an engine (for example that an engine was built between 1987 and 1994) by examining the engine's build and components, the earliest date the engine could have been manufactured can be reported as the model year of that engine (in the example, 1987). If the fleet owner is still unable to determine the model year of the engine after checking with the manufacturer or dealer, the engine can be reported and treated as a 1969 model year engine.