



The Imes EPM-XP electronic handheld engine indicator has been chosen by Kawasaki Heavy Industries for its MAN B&W two-stroke engines, built under MAN Diesel's license.

Electronic Indicator for Two-Stroke Engines

Imes has announced that its EPM-XP handheld electronic periodic cylinder pressure monitor is now specified on Kawasaki Heavy Industries' MAN B&W two-stroke engines, which the company builds under a MAN Diesel license.

Imes said these engines will now include the EPM-XP electronic indicator in its standard scope-of-supply, instead of a mechanical indicator. Kawasaki is the first builder of two-stroke diesels to specify an Imes electronic indicator on new engines, said the company.

"This contract emphasizes the central importance of indicated cylinder pressure as a value from which much can be deduced about an engine's oper-

ation and its overall condition," said Imes Managing Director Stefan Neumann. "As well as saving fuel, the optimization of engine settings on the basis of accurate cylinder pressure readings will become increasingly important as a method of ensuring NO_x emissions are kept in compliance with the IMO Tier 2 limits, which come into effect from January 2011."

Neumann added that a further feature of the system is the ability to download data from the EPM-XP to a PC or laptop via a USB cable, after which the data can be processed using Imes' specially developed software and transmitted via telephone line or the Internet.

Designed for periodic monitoring of cylinder pressure on diesel engines, the EPM-XP device can record cylinder pressure values on up to 20 cylinders on two-stroke engines operating at speeds of 40 to 300 r/min and on four-stroke medium- and high-speed diesels with rated speeds from 200 to 1500 r/min.

"In a new development, a software upgrade is now offered by our company, which allows calculation of the output of every engine cylinder," reported Neumann.

Neumann further said the new contract follows a period of cooperation between the engine builder and Imes and is the latest milestone in a partnership that dates back to 2006. "For example, we already supply the pressure sensors, which are an important technical feature on Kawasaki's recently launched high-efficiency gas engine," he said.

"In the lead-up to the new contract, the measurement, evaluation and communication capabilities of the EPM-XP were demonstrated to Kawasaki in early 2008, followed by the supply of two devices — one for test stand use and one for evaluation aboard ship. Following successful testing in both environments, Imes customized the specification for the EPM-XP electronic indicators, which will now be supplied with newly built MAN B&W two-stroke engines," he said.

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