Vapor Recovery Test Procedure

TP - 201.2D

Post-Fueling Drips From Nozzles

Adopted: February 1, 2001
Amended: October 8, 2003
California Environmental Protection Agency  
Air Resources Board  

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A set of definitions common to all Certification and Test Procedures is in:

D-200 Definitions for Vapor Recovery Procedures

For the purpose of this procedure, the term "CARB" refers to the California Air Resources Board; the term "Executive Officer" refers to the CARB Executive Officer, or his or her authorized representative or designate; and the term “CP-201” refers to CARB CP-201 Certification Procedure for Vapor Recovery Systems at Gasoline Dispensing Facilities.

1. PURPOSE AND APPLICABILITY

1.1 The purpose of this procedure is to quantify gasoline drips from nozzles following fueling events. It is applicable, during the certification process, for determining compliance with the performance standard for the maximum allowable number of gasoline drips as defined in CP-201.

1.2 The term “drip” is used for consistency throughout this test procedure. However, other CARB documents may use the terms “drip” and “drop” interchangeably.

2. PRINCIPLE AND SUMMARY OF TEST PROCEDURE

2.1 The vapor recovery nozzle is used to dispense gasoline into a vehicle fuel tank. Upon activation of the nozzle’s primary shutoff mechanism, ten (10) seconds are allowed to elapse prior to removal of the nozzle from the vehicle fillpipe. The nozzle is then removed and the number of drips of gasoline are quantified.

2.2 Compliance with the performance standard specified in CP-201 shall be determined using the average result of all test runs from all the nozzles tested. A minimum of ten nozzles shall be tested for certification.

3. BIASES AND INTERFERENCES

3.1 Nozzle orientation during dispensing can affect the response time of the primary shutoff mechanism. To eliminate this bias, the nozzle shall be inserted into each vehicle fillpipe in the same orientation as specified in Section 7.

3.2 Spitback may bias the results of the test procedure toward noncompliance. During the certification process, spitback occurrences shall be noted on the Field Data Sheet
(Form 1). If spitback is attributable to vehicle fillpipes that do not meet the requirements of title 13, CCR, section 2235, the data for that run shall not be used in the calculations.

3.3 Based on graduations of the specified cylinder, gasoline that exits the nozzle as a trickle, and measures less than 0.3 milliliters (0.3 ml) will be reported as 2.5 drips. This technique will bias the results toward compliance.

3.4 Based on variations in gasoline product grade and fuel composition, the conversion of one milliliter (1 ml) as equal to 20 drips may underestimate the actual number of drips and the conversion may bias the result toward compliance.

4. SENSITIVITY, RANGE, AND PRECISION

4.1 The procedure is capable of determining spills as small as one drip per fueling event.

4.2 The sensitivity of the procedure is one drip/fueling event. In addition, the precision ranges from one drip/fueling event to 0.3 milliliter (0.3 ml) per fueling event, for less than ten milliliters (10 ml).

4.3 For the purpose of the test procedure, a fueling event shall consist of any vehicle fueling event of at least 4.5 gallons, terminated by activation of the nozzle’s primary shutoff mechanism.

5. EQUIPMENT

5.1 Field Data Sheet. Use a Field Data Sheet, such as Form 1, to record testing information.

5.2 Nozzle Data Sheet. Use a Nozzle Data Sheet, such as Form 2, to record nozzle information.

5.3 Timing device. Use a timing device accurate to within 0.2 seconds, capable of indicating time in increments of one (1) second.

5.4 Graduated cylinder. Gasoline resistant, non-breakable graduated cylinder. Use a ten milliliter (10 ml) graduated cylinder with the scale beginning at 0.3 milliliters (0.3 ml) and minimum graduations of 0.1 milliliters (0.1 ml).

5.5 Level. Level to verify attitude of nozzle.

5.6 Funnel. Gasoline resistant, non-breakable funnel of appropriate size for use with the graduated cylinder. If a bellows-equipped nozzle is tested, use a funnel wide enough to capture all drips from the nozzle boot.

5.7 Gasoline container. Gasoline container in which to empty the cylinder.

5.8 Tape, scribe or marking device. Use to mark nozzle attitude.

5.9 Other Equipment. Gasoline resistant gloves. Use to protect skin.
6. PRE-TEST PROCEDURES

6.1 Obtain the attitude of spout tip by placing the nozzle against the dispenser to hold nozzle steady. Using the level, position the spout tip horizontal (parallel) to the ground. With tape or a scribe, mark a visual indicator of this attitude on both sides of nozzle (See Figure 1).

6.2 Enter nozzle information on Nozzle Data Sheet (See Form 2).

7. TEST PROCEDURE

7.1 The tester shall select a vehicle for the test by choosing the next vehicle that appears for which the fueling event is about to begin.

7.1.1 Ask the customer if the fueling event is to be a fillup. If the answer is no, the tester shall select the next potential vehicle.

7.1.2 If the customer acknowledges that they want a fillup, the tester should ask to fuel the vehicle, explaining the purpose and details of the test.

7.2 Verify that the ten milliliter (10 ml) graduated cylinder is empty. Position the funnel into the graduated cylinder.

7.3 Remove nozzle from the dispenser holster and insert the nozzle spout into the vehicle fillpipe. Position the nozzle in the 12:00 o’clock orientation for side fill vehicles and as close to a 12:00 o’clock orientation as feasible for rear fill vehicles. See Figure 2 for nozzle orientations.

7.4 Position the tip of the spout downward into the fillpipe. Using the visual indicator on the nozzle, verify that the attitude of the nozzle tip is pointing downward, shown by the back of the visual indicator being in an elevated position (see Figure 1). If there is any
uncertainty, place the level along the visual indicator and verify that the bubble is away from the vehicle.

**Figure 2**  
Nozzle Orientation at the 12 o’clock position

![Diagram showing nozzle orientation at the 12 o’clock position.](image)

Nozzle/hose interface represents the pivot point of the hour hand.

Note: The clock face is in the same plane as the fillpipe opening.

7.5 Begin dispensing with the nozzle trigger in the hand-held, wide open position to achieve the maximum dispensing rate. Set the nozzle on high clip. Start timing when dispensing begins.

7.6 Upon activation of the nozzle’s primary shutoff mechanism, stop the timing for the dispensing rate determination and verify that at least 4.5 gallons were dispensed.

7.6.1 Wait for ten (10) seconds before removing the nozzle from the vehicle fillpipe. While removing the nozzle, keep the spout pointing downward. Commence counting drips as soon as the spout clears the fillpipe. Tilt the spout tip such that the spout is pointing straight upward.

7.6.2 Moving the nozzle away from the vehicle, tilt the nozzle until the spout tip is pointing straight downward over the funnel, and hold for five (5) seconds, keeping the nozzle as still as possible. At the end of the five (5) second counting interval, remove the measuring equipment from beneath the spout, and discontinue counting. After each measurement, empty the graduated cylinder.

7.6.3 From the time the spout exits the fillpipe, to the end of the five (5) second counting interval, any gasoline that exits the nozzle as a trickle will be counted as 2.5 drips and will be added to any drip(s) observed for the sum of that run. Quantities of gasoline measuring 0.3 milliliters (0.3 ml) or greater will be noted on the Field Data Sheet in milliliters. If the gasoline collected measures less than 0.3 milliliters (0.3 ml), an "X" will be used for recording a value for milliliters.
7.7 Conduct at least ten test runs on each of a minimum of ten nozzles, following the procedures specified in Sections 7.1 through 7.6.3. Record data for each run on the Field Data Sheet. When measuring gasoline in the graduated cylinder, record in milliliters on Field Data Sheet; do not convert to drips.

8. **CALCULATING RESULTS**

8.1 Calculate the dispensing rate for each fueling event as follows:

\[
Q = \frac{(G)(60)}{t} \quad \text{Equation 8-1}
\]

Where:

- \( Q \) = Dispensing rate, gallons/minute
- \( G \) = Gasoline dispensed during the fueling event, gallons
- \( t \) = Duration of fueling event, seconds
- 60 = Conversion factor from seconds to minutes

8.2 Convert run results expressed in milliliters to drips. For conversion purposes, one milliliter (1 ml) equals 20 drips. Runs that have recorded values for drips and for milliliters shall be calculated using the value that represents the higher amount of drips. Calculate the average result of all test runs from all the nozzles as follows:

\[
\bar{D} = \frac{d}{n} \quad \text{Equation 8-2}
\]

Where:

- \( \bar{D} \) = Average number of drips for all fueling events, drips/fueling event
- \( d \) = Total of all drips from all fueling events, drips
- \( n \) = Number of fueling events during test

9 **REPORTING RESULTS**

9.1 Report the following information for post-fueling drips:

9.1.1 All data shown in the Field Data Sheet and Nozzle Data Sheet.

9.1.2 The average result of all test runs for all the nozzles tested, expressed to the nearest tenth of a drip.

10. **ALTERNATE PROCEDURES**

10.1 This procedure shall be conducted as specified. Modifications to this test procedure shall not be used to determine compliance unless prior written approval has been obtained from the CARB Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 14 of Certification Procedure CP-201.
TP 201.2D Field Data Sheet
POST – FUELING DRIPS

Facility: Test Date: Tester(s):

Address: Phase II System Type:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vehicle Info</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make</td>
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<tr>
<td>Model</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fueling Info</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time of day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dispenser number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gasoline grade (e.g.: 87, 89, 91)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nozzle orientation (clock position)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nozzle tip downward? (Y or N)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duration of fueling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automatic shutoff? (Y or N)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fuel pumped (gallons)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spitback? (Y or N)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drip Data</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drips measured</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milliliters measured</td>
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Comments:

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<th>Gasoline grade (e.g.: 87, 89, 91)</th>
<th>Manufacturer</th>
<th>Model number</th>
<th>Serial number</th>
<th>Date code</th>
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