

# **Protect Against Fuel Varnishing in Your RV Generator**

#### If you don't run a tank of gas a month, you could be risking the performance of your RV generator.

If you store your RV over the winter, or don't operate it often enough to refuel the gas tank every month, you could develop a fuel varnishing problem in your engine — particularly in your generator.

Fuel varnishing is a gummy residue that clogs the generator carburetor and fuel pump. It's caused by the deterioration of fuel that sits in the engine too long, and it happens in a surprisingly short period of time. Depending on fuel quality and storage conditions, gasoline can deteriorate in as little as 30 days. As long as you refuel frequently with fresh gasoline, and exercise the unit regularly, fuel varnishing is less likely to occur. But if you leave the same gasoline in the tank for several months, you're very likely to have problems.

Fuel varnishing affects many engines, but it's more noticeable in generators because the engines are smaller. Even the slightest decrease in efficiency has a big impact on performance. A generator with varnish buildup may start, but runs like it needs a tune-up. It surges, accelerating and decelerating, but never settling on a stable operating speed.

In many of the gasoline powered units, engine speed directly affects generator voltage output and frequency. As speed increases/decreases, so does the voltage and frequency.

The only ways to prevent fuel varnishing are to treat the contents of the tank supplying fuel to the generator with a fuel preservative and to exercise the set. Onan<sup>®</sup> has developed a fuel preservative and stabilizer, OnaFresh<sup>™</sup>, specifically formulated for Onan generators. Onan recommends adding this preservative to the fuel, especially on infrequently used coaches. Emptying the tank won't prevent fuel varnishing because a small amount of fuel always remains in the generator carburetor. If you plan to leave the tank empty, Onan recommends that you add a special mixture of fuel and a preservative before you run the tank dry so the residual fuel contains the preservative.

# Problems caused by fuel varnishing will not be covered under Onan product warranty guidelines.

Once varnishing has occurred, adding a preservative won't correct the problem. You need to add a fuel cleaner, or manually scrape the varnish from the fuel system parts. Onan offers Premium Fuel System Cleaner for use with its generators.

By understanding how to properly care for your RV generator and protect against fuel varnishing, you'll enjoy better performance and longer service-free operation. It may seem strange that "not" using a product causes it to break down faster. With generators, though, that's exactly the case.

Premium Fuel System Cleaner and OnaFresh, along with other Green Label Parts maintenance products



can be found at your local Onan Certified RV Service and Parts Dealer. To locate your nearest dealer, visit www.funroads.com.

## For Dependable Performance and to Maximize the Life of Your RV Generator, Use Green Label Parts<sup>™</sup>. Genuine Onan<sup>®</sup>.



Onan offers a complete line of accessories, replacement and tune-up parts, oil and maintenance chemicals specifically designed for RV generators. Look for Green Label Parts<sup>™</sup> at your local Onan Certified RV Service and Parts Dealer located throughout the United States and Canada. To locate your nearest dealer, visit www.funroads.com.

### **Onan Oil and Service/Maintenance Chemicals**

**OnaMax**<sup>™</sup> **15W40 Oil** – (part# 326-5336) **SAE 30** (part# 326-5339) Factory recommended and tested, maximum protection engine oil formulated to reduce consumption and engine wear due to high temperature oil oxidation and viscosity increase. 1-qt. bottle.

**OnaFresh™ GXLP Fuel Stabilizer** – (part# 326-5365) A premium fuel additive, specially formulated for long-lasting prevention of gasoline breakdown during extended RV storage. Protects gasoline against gum, varnish and sludge formation as well as fuel system corrosion. 16-oz. bottle treats 40 gallons of gasoline.

**Onagard**<sup>™</sup> **Storage Fogging Spray** – (part# 326-5288) Protects small engines and other mechanical equipment during off-season storage. Provides protection for up to six months. 12-oz. aerosol can.

**Onan Premium Fuel System Cleaner** – (part# 326-5342) Promotes smoother, more efficient gasoline engine operation. Cleans dirty carburetors and fuel injection systems; removes fuel system gum and varnish; reduces valve and intake deposits. 12-oz. bottle treats up to 24 gallons of gasoline.

**4C Combustion Chamber and Carburetor Cleaner** – (part# 326-5278) Removes power-robbing buildup of carbon, gum and varnish. Regular use can extend intervals between combustion chamber carbon maintenance cleanings. 12-oz. aerosol can provides carbon removal for one genset.



### **Cummins Power Generation**





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