## Subject:

TESTING GASOLINE FOR ETHANOL CONTENT

M-Tips No.: MT-002/21

Last Issued: 10/13/2021

## BULLETIN NOTES

This M-Tip supersedes the previously issued M-Tip listed below. The changes are noted in Red text.

| Previous M-Tip | Date(s) Issued |
| :---: | :---: |
| MT-002/21 | $9 / 24 / 2021,10 / 13 / 2021$ |
| MT-005/09 | 2009 |

## APPLICABLE MODEL(S)/VINS

| $2003-2021$ Mazda6 | 2006-2015 Mazda5 | $2007-2021$ CX-9 | $2016-2021$ CX-3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $2004-2021$ Mazda3 | $2006-2021$ MX-5 | $2011-2014$ Mazda2 | $2020-2021$ CX-30 |
| $2004-2011$ RX-8 | $2007-2012$ CX-7 | $2013-2021$ CX-5 |  |

## DESCRIPTION

Ethanol is becoming a common additive in gasoline. Gasoline containing ethanol is likely available at your local gasoline station. Typical blends of ethanol include E10 and E85.

- E10: A blend of 10\% ethanol and 90\% gasoline
- E85: A blend of $85 \%$ ethanol and $15 \%$ gasoline

All Mazda vehicles can run on gasoline containing up to 10\% ethanol (E10) but only some 1999-2001 B3000 trucks can run on gasoline with more than 10\% ethanol blended.

- E10 compatible vehicles: All Mazda vehicles
- E85 compatible vehicles: 1999-2001 B3000 Mazda trucks with the 8th VIN digit is V.

What if a customer puts E85 in there Mazda vehicle?
Symptoms include:

- Rough Running
- Engine hard start
- Lean Codes (Examples: P0171 and/or P2096)
- Misfires and/or misfire codes (Examples: P0300, P0301, P0302, P0303 OR P0304)
- Lack of power
- Poor fuel economy

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- Spark knock
- Mechanical engine damage

How do I test for Ethanol in gasoline?
We can add water to a gasoline sample to determine how much ethanol is in the gasoline.

1. Pour 8 ml of the fuel sample into the graduated cylinder.
2. Add 2 ml of water to the fuel sample bringing the total height of the fuel and water mixture to 10 ml .
3. Cover the open end of the graduated cylinder and shake the fuel sample.
4. Let fuel sample sit until the water and gasoline separate.
5. Inspect the water/fuel separation. If the separation line on graduated cylinder is:

- $2 \mathrm{ml}=$ No ethanol in gasoline
- $2 \mathrm{ml}-3 \mathrm{ml}=10 \%$ ethanol in gasoline
- $3 \mathrm{ml}-10 \mathrm{ml}=$ More than $10 \%$ ethanol in gasoline

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