

Fuel-saving technologies from Bosch

Bosch Rexroth's new Hydrostatic Regenerative Braking (HRB) system actually stores the energy generated from braking and uses this to enhance acceleration. A potential 25% reduction in fuel consumption is achievable with the new HRB system, which is ideal for short-distance travel commercial vehicles such as school and city buses, recycling and refuse lorries and delivery vehicles. This is a big plus for both operators and the environment in light of diminishing resources, increasing environmental consciousness and above all - rising fuel prices.

The system goes into action mode when the vehicle's driver presses the brake pedal causing a hydraulic unit to push hydraulic fluid into a high-pressure reservoir. Each time the driver brakes, energy which would usually be lost, is stored. When accelerating, the electronically controlled hydraulic pressure reservoir releases the pressure, thus relieving the load on the diesel engine. As a result, the engine consumes less fuel, generates fewer exhaust gases and functions more quietly.

Rexroth's HRB can be retrofitted in the chassis as an add-on system without major modifications – even in vehicles without hydraulics. For more information, visit www.boschrexroth.com/hrb.

Petrol or diesel?

Inputting a few facts and figures into a new website can now help car drivers make the most cost efficient engine choice when choosing their next car.

Fuel Pilot is a new website developed by Bosch Automotive to help the general public answer these kinds of questions and ultimately, assist them in deciding between petrol and diesel. The new website www.fuel-pilot.com compares around 1,400 current car models for 35 international car companies to see what engine best suits the motorist. By entering the car and model, type of engine, annual mileage and the price of fuel at a local garage, the fuel calculator will give an overview of the efficiency of a vehicle and enable car drivers to discover which type of engine will result in the most favourable fuel consumption and the fewest emissions.

Research shows that for higher mileage drivers, a diesel engine could be more cost effective than a petrol one because fuel consumption is 30% lower. Additional benefits to choosing diesel over petrol include a reduction of 25% on CO2 emissions and approximately 50% greater torque.

Fuel Pilot is updated every 6 months and calculates figures using current statistics provided by Bosch and the ADAC, the German Automotive Society.