

Testing the future of Diesel



THINGS are moving at quite a pace in Hartridge these days. Since the management buy out in 2004, the business has grown significantly with the workforce literally having doubled. This growth has mainly taken place in engineering to support rapid investment in R&D – spend for this currently exceeds 7% of turnover with growth projected again this year.

The R&D investment is directed to support Hartridge OE partners Delphi, Denso and Siemens with equipment for the official franchised network as well as further growth in the well-developed 'All-Makes' programme.



Over the past 12 months, growth in the diesel repair market has driven new research, applications and products. Hartridge's flagship product, the AVM2-PC, still remains the benchmark in test platforms for new technology (CR/EUI/EUP). Hartridge has expanded its capability by extending the range of CR injector test products. For the fully-equipped workshop, these products will also work on the CRi-PC to prevent kit duplication.

In addition to injector testing, there are a number of exciting new developments in Common Rail pump test, including the introduction of test kit for Bosch CP2 pumps and an 'All Makes' test kit for Denso HP0. EUI capability is also being expanded rapidly to include the long awaited E series injectors; but expansion of the HEUI test capability has not

been overlooked with additional Caterpillar test capability currently under evaluation.

The flexibility of the AVM2-PC provides an 'All-Makes' solution for the predominantly transport and industrial driven Australasian market, but also caters to the higher end of the diesel market with its Common Rail facility. To underline their commitment to enable workshops to test cutting-edge technology, Hartridge have also introduced products that, whilst not completely aligned with the current Australasian diesel market, anticipate it's future direction with the population of diesel cars (and therefore Common Rail technology) increasing exponentially.

These new products include the CRp-PC, a dedicated CR pump test stand, FQM-50, a fuel quality meter which detects particles in diesel fuel and finally, IFT-70, an injector function tester. An integral part of the IFT-70 is a CR signal unit (IFT-c) capable of driving all makes of Common Rail injectors including Bosch piezo – an excellent example of how Hartridge develop products in advance of consumer demand.

The global growth in diesel continues unabated and Hartridge is proud to be at the forefront of test and calibration development serving the needs of the service network with a comprehensive all makes programme.

These are exciting times and Hartridge MD, Pete Smallwood, is eager to expand on these developments with delegates at the 2008 AADS Convention.

