TECH TALK

Flame Retardant Filters

Modern engines are required to work in many different environments, all of which put different demands on the air filters being used to protect that engine. As a result, Donaldson has developed many different types of filter media to meet these demands.

There are some operating environments where there is a fire risk with the chance that a filter could have holes burnt in it, or even ignite. To reduce the chance of this occuring, Donaldson has developed a range of filters made using a flame retardant media.

When would you use a Flame Retardant filter?

There are ❷ main reasons to use a flame retardant filter.

❶ For vehicles such as loaders and forklifts operating in environments like grain silos, mills and some warehouses. The type of dust present can pose a real fire risk, or even the chance of an explosion, if there was a backfire from the engine into an air cleaner equipped with a standard media filter.

❷ When operating in environments where there are fires close by, such as bush fire fighting trucks, forestry vehicles, or fire fighting pumps.

These engines can often be operated in conditions where embers could easily be drawn into the intake system. If this happens to a vehicle equipped with a standard filter, the embers could burn a hole in the media, or even ignite the filter. This could result in expensive engine damage happening very rapidly, or causing the engine to stop during an emergency situation.

To minimise this risk, Donaldson has a range of filters for engines commonly used in these roles that are made with a special UL approved flame retardant media.

What is different about flame retardant media?

The flame retardant media has been made from a cellulose material specially treated to reduce the likelihood of damage by sparks or embers. It has been rigorously tested and approved by the Underwriters Laboratories.

DID YOU KNOW

- Donaldson flame retardant filters are pale green in colour.
- Donaldson air cleaners fitted with flame retardant filters operate at a minimum efficiency of 99.95%

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