Fuel Delivery Systems

It is important for the proper operation and performance of your engine that the fuel delivery system gets appropriate attention.

Indmar’s minimum recommendation for octane rating is 89. The LS3 and LS7 engine require a minimum of 93. High octane fuel doesn’t always mean high quality fuel. It is equally important to use Top Tier gasoline from stations that have higher volume of distribution. Gas stations that don’t sell much fuel have the fuel sitting in the tank that can lead to degrading fuel quality. Stations that have more business can ‘rotate’ the fuel more often leading to more fresh fuel in the tanks.

Boats that have fuel pumps mounted on the engine have a fuel filter that is in-line from the tank to the pump. This filter should be changed at the boat’s first service (10-20 hrs) and every 50 hrs or annually thereafter.

Starting in 2007, Malibu introduced our in-tank fuel pump. Early version pumps, called the Gen 2, have a fuel filter under the high pressure fuel outlet fitting. This filter should only be serviced by qualified Malibu trained personnel. The change interval is every 100 hrs or annually.

Part way through 2008, a new version in-tank pump was introduced with a combined filter/regulator. This new pump referred to as the Gen 3, requires no periodic maintenance. Should one of these pumps see a plugged filter/regulator, it is most likely attributed to contaminated fuel.

As part of winterization practice, any remaining fuel in a boat’s fuel tank should be treated with Sta-Bil fuel stabilizer to help prevent degradation of the fuel over the storage period. Untreated fuel will severely degrade over that time and will most likely turn to varnish that can clog fuel pumps and filters.

When the fuel delivery system is not properly maintained and stored, it can lead to poor performance, poor fuel economy, hard starting, and even possible severe engine damage. Repairs needed to correct damage done by improperly stored or maintained fuel systems are not covered under warranty.