MULTIPLE MODELS
TESTING GASOLINE FOR ETHANOL CONTENT

As peviously stated in the November/December issue of M-Tips, 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
- Lean Codes
- Misfires and/or misfire codes
- Lack of power
- Poor fuel economy
- 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 8ml of the fuel sample into the graduated cylinder.
2. Add 2ml of water to the fuel sample bringing the total height of the fuel and water mixture to 10ml.
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:
   - 2ml = No ethanol in gasoline
   - 2ml – 3ml = 10% ethanol in gasoline
   - 3ml – 10ml = More than 10% ethanol in gasoline