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Detroit Diesel Remanufacturing Corporation Practices the Ultimate Form of Recycling

DETROIT, Michigan, Oct. 5, 2005 -- Remanufacturing is one of the ways that Detroit Diesel is helping to preserve the world's environment and natural resources. Detroit Diesel Remanufacturing Corporation's five North American centers remanufacture everything from complete diesel engines to individual components.

Remanufacturing is considered the ultimate form of recycling. Recycling commonly refers to products that are returned to their original raw material state, removing them from the waste disposal stream by using the raw materials to manufacture new products; such as melting down engine castings and using the metals to make new parts.

Remanufacturing, however, offers a better alternative to recycling. Studies have shown that the energy saved each year through global remanufacturing efforts, equals the electricity generated by five nuclear power plants or 10,744,000 barrels of oil.

In fact, a 1981 study by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology on the remanufacturing of automobile components indicated that nearly 85 percent of the energy expended in the manufacturing of the original product was preserved in the remanufactured product. The raw materials saved yearly through remanufacturing would fill 155,000 railroad cars.

"Through remanufacturing, Detroit Diesel avoids placing a significant amount of core material into the nation's landfills and helps reduce the amount of pollution created by the re-smelting and reprocessing of engine components," said James Morrow, president of Detroit Diesel Remanufacturing Corporation. "These benefits are continually multiplied as remanufactured cores go through the process again and again. For instance, at our East and West Remanufacturing Centers, our core volume processing is expected to surpass 90 million pounds. It's staggering when you think we save that much material from heading to landfills or scrap piles."

Detroit Diesel news releases, photographs and product specification details are available at www.detroitdiesel.com



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Remanufacturing: The Process

Detroit Diesel's reliabilt® remanufacturing process was designed to be environmentally friendly. A very specific baking process is utilized to clean the cores. Cores are heated to a temperature that reduces contaminants, such as oil and grease, to a fine powder. The cores are then media-blasted to remove the powder and remaining contaminants. The cleaning process was developed with the intent of utilizing a non-caustic baking process.

All cores coming in for remanufacturing are disassembled by hand. This process makes it much easier to separate like-type materials. Detroit Diesel's disassembly process eliminates that contamination, creating pure alloys from the parts that end up being scrapped, saving valuable natural resources.

Skilled Technicians, World-Class Process

Detroit Diesel Remanufacturing's world-class restoration process begins with skilled technicians disassembling components. Using precise, computer-aided processes for measuring, gauging, salvage technology, reassembly and testing - Detroit Diesel Remanufacturing restores products to their original blue print specifications.

Because each product is different, every component requires a unique process. Morrow summarized the basics involved in remanufacturing any product at Detroit Diesel Remanufacturing.

"We decide what parts we're going to remanufacture and then we go through a process of receiving and qualifying," explained Morrow. The philosophy of Detroit Diesel Remanufacturing is simple: offer the customer a cost effective solution that restores the product to the latest blueprint specifications.

"One of the things we insist on is that the part not only be completely restored from a functional standpoint, but it's got to look the same as the original as well," said Morrow. "For instance, on the Series 60® engine block, we pre-paint all the components before we assemble them, so that it will indeed look just like the new engine looks when it goes out the door."

Detroit Diesel Remanufacturing Corporation, a subsidiary of Detroit Diesel Corporation, remanufactures and markets a complete line of diesel engines and related products in North America, including the reliabilt® brand. For more than 40 years, reliabilt has been one of the most respected names in the aftermarket business with ready-to-install products for on-highway and off-highway power-systems.

Detroit Diesel Corporation is the leading manufacturer of on-highway heavy-duty diesel engines for the commercial truck market. The company offers a complete line of engines from 170 to 515 horsepower for the on-highway and vocational markets. Through its corporate headquarters in Detroit, Michigan, Detroit Diesel is engaged in the design, manufacture, sale and service of these products, in addition to supporting alternative and hybrid engine strategies for the commercial truck marketplace. Detroit Diesel is a subsidiary of DaimlerChrysler and part of the Freightliner group of companies.