

GST #16A: BY-PASS FILTER

WHAT DOES IT DO AND WHY DO I NEED ONE

Imagine you could give your engine a fresh oil change every hour...of every day...for years and years...would that help the engine to live longer?

A by-pass oil filter is an ADDITIONAL oil filter. It does not replace your current oil filter, only adds extra filtration to it. Your current oil filter has to handle the entire oil flow rate of the engine, and at the high rate flow of approximately 2.5 Gallons a minute, it cannot do a good job. Only the larger particles are caught – and the finer stuff goes right through! A typical by-pass filter cleans all the oil in the system several times an hour, so the engine continuously receives clean oil.

The by-pass filter is designed to remove the **finer** contaminant particles such as dirt and metals, and does it more thoroughly than the regular filter. It usually consists of an outer casing and mounting bracket, a dense inner filter and a flow rate regulator.

Let's start with the main reason for a by-pass oil filter: **IF YOU FILTER THE FINE PARTICLES – YOU'LL NEVER HAVE TO CHANGE OIL AGAIN.** That's right, the oil you're using never wears out, it just gets dirty. **Continual cleaning** kills three birds with one shot:

1. **Save cash** by recycling oil (no disposal costs) and using very cheap filters **saves recycling costs**, which adds up to \$1000's in a small fleet.
2. **Save the environment** from contaminated oil (used oil is one of the largest hazardous waste streams in California).
3. At the same time, you'll be **saving on maintenance** too as well as getting more years of service per vehicle, due to better filtration.

It may even save some gasoline since the extended amount and flow of oil cools down the oil, resulting in increased efficiency.

More info on paper filters:

- www.utterpower.com/oil.htm
- www.gulfcoastfilters.com/
- www.kleenoilusa.com/

The reasons I've added it here is (1) it's a great \$\$\$ saver in the long run, and (2) it's affordable. Especially if you're going to use **toilet paper**. That's not a typo, read on.