

## MOTORCYCLES PRODUCED TO MEET EMISSION STANDARDS

Under provisions of the U.S. Clean Air Act, all street-legal motorcycles manufactured after December 31, 1977 must comply with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations. The purpose of these regulations is to reduce air pollution by eliminating crankcase emissions and controlling the exhaust emissions to specified limits for the useful life of the motorcycle.

Accordingly, engine modifications were made in 4-cycle models to reduce emissions and these models were approved for production by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Emissions related changes to our motorcycles include the following:

1. Recalibrated carburetor with fast idle choke system.
2. Breakerless solid state ignition system.
3. Closed crankcase breather system.
4. Modified air intake and exhaust systems.

It was not necessary to provide any special emission control devices such as a catalytic converter; EPA compliance was achieved by design modifications and changed operating procedures and service procedures.

New 1200cc motorcycles beginning with January 3, 1978 production, which incorporate the above changes, are identified with VIN's starting with 60,000 H8. To differentiate these motorcycles from early 1978 motorcycles, the EPA certified 1200cc motorcycles are designated in our manuals as 1978½ models.

As a Harley-Davidson Dealer, you have a key role to play under the EPA regulations, namely:

1. The Warranties. Each motorcycle is warranted by Harley-Davidson to be free from defects in material and workmanship which would cause emissions levels to exceed EPA standards for a period of five years or 18,641 miles (30,000 kilometers) from date of delivery, whichever occurs first. The Emission Control System Warranty is separate from the Standard New Motorcycle Limited Warranty.

Nearly all parts, including emissions related parts, are covered by the standard New Motorcycle Limited Warranty up to six months or 6,000 miles from date of delivery.

Beyond this period up to 18,641 miles or five years, emissions related parts are covered by the Emission Control System Warranty. However, we anticipate that claims under this warranty would be made only in very unusual circumstances because at the present time EPA has not established regulations for a quick test for measurement of emissions in the field. In the absence of

reliable emissions test data, it will be our policy to honor a claim under the Emission Warranty only when failure occurs in a part directly related to emissions control which obviously causes emissions to exceed EPA Standards. For example, warranty coverage would most likely be provided if the crankcase breather hose would break. On the other hand, coverage would most likely be denied if a connecting rod failure occurred.

If specific questions come up regarding warranty claims under our Emission Control System Warranty, please contact our Service Department for clarification.

2. Service and Maintenance. To retain the emission control system performance originally built into the motorcycle for its entire useful life, the specified service and maintenance procedures given in the Owner's Manual and the Owner's Warranty and Maintenance booklet must be stringently followed. Copies of these books are included with this service bulletin and are provided for each purchaser with each new motorcycle.

Read these books carefully to acquaint yourself with the changed service intervals and changed or added procedures. Do this now so that you will be knowledgeable about the changes which affect the emissions performance of our new motorcycles, and so that you will be able to provide the best possible service for your customers and answer any questions which they may have!

Please note that the service intervals have been changed from even 1,000 mile intervals to 1,250 mile intervals and new service procedures for the carburetor and ignition system have been added.

**IMPORTANT!** Proper service is essential to keep motorcycle emissions within normal limits.

Some causes of higher than normal emissions are: misfiring, poor compression, improper ignition timing, poor ignition spark, excessively rich or lean fuel mixture, high oil consumption or other abnormal conditions related to engine tuning.

Apparent non-compliance with EPA Standards arising from failure to perform specified maintenance is not covered by the Emission Control System Warranty!

No special equipment is needed at the present time to check exhaust emissions. If factory specifications are followed and original equipment parts (or equal) are used, the motorcycle will meet emission standards when engine performance is normal. If engine performance is noticeably poor, emissions will likely be excessive until required service is performed to produce a normal running engine.

3. Operating Restrictions. At the present time, the 1978½ FLH/FX models are EPA certified for operation only without a sidecar or liberator fairing or trailer; and must be within the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR), which is printed on a label located on the frame front down tube. Therefore, you are not permitted by law to attach a sidecar, liberator fairing or a trailer to any customer's 1978½ FLH/FX models until such time as their use is approved. We anticipate that our

sidecar will be approved for use in the near future. However, we will not request approval for use of the Liberator fairing, or any trailer because of motorcycle handling and braking problems associated with trailer use.

4. Repairs and Parts. We are continuing to recommend to our customers that maintenance be performed by a Harley-Davidson Dealer using genuine Harley-Davidson replacement parts. A notice to this effect appears in the Owner's Manual and in the Owner's Warranty and Maintenance booklet. This notice also states that maintenance may be performed by any other qualified service outlet using non-genuine parts, provided such parts are certified to comply with EPA standards. At this time, EPA has not set up a separate parts certification procedure. However, we understood from EPA that non-Harley-Davidson parts may be used, only if the dealer or mechanic (not Harley-Davidson) can certify that such parts are equivalent in function to original equipment parts and will not cause the motorcycle to fail to meet emissions standards.

Although such parts may be used for EPA compliance if desired, we have established the policy that all Warranty Service parts are required to be genuine Harley-Davidson parts.

5. Tampering. Under the anti-tampering provisions of EPA regulations, the replacement or alteration of emission related components outside of factory specifications is prohibited. You previously received the official notification by letter dated January 3, 1978 from John Davidson, a copy of which is enclosed for your information. We suggest that you review the contents of this letter with your mechanics so that you will not expose yourself to liability for any violations of the anti-tampering regulations.

In addition to strictly avoiding any direct acts of tampering themselves, Harley-Davidson dealers and their mechanics should be careful to avoid possible association or participation in tampering violations by maintaining a clear record of any motorcycle which has been tampered with by others to serve as evidence that Harley-Davidson dealers and mechanics did not participate in such tampering.

In this bulletin we have outlined as briefly and clearly as possible the new government mandated changes and their likely effect upon you and your customers. We will keep you informed by subsequent letters and bulletins of any clarification prompted by your questions or further government directives. Please contact our Service Department in the event you have questions.

Enclosed are the following printed items for your information:

1. 1978 $\frac{1}{2}$  FL/FLH/FX/FXE/FXS Owner's Manual, 99460-78E.
2. Owners Warranty and Maintenance Booklet (Rev. 1-78).
3. 1978 $\frac{1}{2}$  FL/FLH-1200 Consumer Information 99460-78 $\frac{1}{2}$  S1 (10 each).
4. 1978 $\frac{1}{2}$  FX/FXE/FXS-1200 Consumer Information, 99450-78 S2 (10 each).
5. New Motorcycle Limited Warranty Poster.

6. Emission Control System Warranty Poster.
7. FL/FLH/FX/FXE/FXS Setting-Up Instructions (Rev. 12-77).
8. FXS Setting-Up Instructions (Rev. 12-77).
9. FL/FLH/FX/FXE/FXS Important Sheet (Rev. 12-77).
10. Predelivery Check Sheet, 99530-78
11. Trailer Towing Warning Sheet (Gold)
12. Warranty Important Notice Sheet (Pink)

The Service Manual for FL/FX models is in the process of being printed and will be mailed to you separately.

Information will be sent to you in the near future for other 1978 production models meeting emission standards.

HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTOR CO., INC.

ROUTING	SERVICE	SALES	PARTS	CHIEF	MECHANIC	MECHANIC	MECHANIC	MECHANIC	RETURN
	MANAGER	MANAGER	MANAGER	MECHANIC	NO. 1	NO. 2	NO. 3	NO. 4	THIS TO:
INITIAL HERE →									