



Motor Trade Association of SA Environmental Fact sheet

QUICK BREAK DEGREASER

What do quick break degreasers do?

Quick Break Degreasers work to reduce the amount of oil passing through an oil separator and into the sewer.

Benefits of using quick break degreasers in your workshop

A quick break degreaser keeps the oil molecules separated for a short period allowing the oil to float on the surface of the water and be separated in your separator.

The quick break action should occur in approximately 10 minutes.

Normal degreasers separate oil molecules decreasing their size allowing them to disperse in water and wash away.

Most degreasers keep the oil molecules separated for extended periods of time.

This means that the oil molecules pass through the oil water separator and instead of being trapped, the oil remains in the water ending up in the sewer.

There are two types of quick break degreasers available; solvent or water based products.

Water based quick break degreasers are environmentally friendly and do not contribute to smog pollution.

How to tell if a degreaser is "Quick Break"

Try the following test to determine if the degreaser you are using is quick break.

1. Fill a jar with 10 parts water and 1 part oil.
2. Add a small amount of degreaser and shake to mix
3. The degreaser should emulsify the oil, or break it down into small particles that dissolve in the water.

If the degreaser is a "quick break" the oil and water should separate back into 2 separate layers within 10 minutes.

Any questions call the MTA

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The Green Stamp Plus Programme is a joint initiative of MTA-SA and the Australian Government Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.



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