

WATCH #568
September 08, 2020
Page 1 of 3

SUBJECT: Next Generation On-Highway Fluid – TES 668™

MODELS AFFECTED: 1000, 2000, 3000, and 4000 Series

Introduction:

Allison Transmission is pleased to announce the launch of its next generation of fluid – TES 668™.

TES 668™ is a modern transmission fluid formulation which utilizes the latest additive technology to meet the needs of current and future applications.

TES 668™ builds on the demonstrated performance of TES 295® fluids in a number of key areas such as oxidative stability, anti-wear performance, and friction modifier durability.

TES 668™ will be the new fluid specification for all Allison 1000, 2000, 3000, and 4000 Series On-Highway products.

Although TES 295® and TES 389® will still be available and acceptable, Allison recommends that all OEMs, channel partners, and end users begin to transition to TES 668™.

Allison plants will begin using TES 668™ fluid in January 2021 for the product series listed above.

TES 668™ is acceptable in all 1000, 2000, 3000, and 4000 Series applications where TES 295® is approved and compatible with all 1000, 2000, 3000, and 4000 Series installations using TES 295® and/or TES 389® fluids.

- TES 668™ fluids can be mixed with TES 295® and TES 389® fluids.
- TES 668™ fluids have the same oil change/drain intervals as TES 295® fluids.
- TES 668™ fluids have the same prognostic settings as TES 295® fluids.
- TES 668™ fluids have the same oil temperature operating range as TES 295® fluids.
- TES 668™ fluids will not affect the transmission oil cooling, oil levels, calibrations, or any other aspects of the transmission installation.

Additional Information:

TES 668™ provides an aftermarket approval process that allows additional oil marketers to seek approval for TES 668™ formulations. We have seen a lot of interest in this process from a range of oil marketers and expect them to submit formulations. Our goal is to have multiple approved fluids available shortly after launch. Visit <https://www.allisontransmission.com/parts-service/approved-fluids/> to find the latest list of approved fluids.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- Why is Allison switching to this fluid?
 - Allison Transmission is moving to a new factory transmission fluid to take advantage of the latest developments in fluid formulation technology. TES 668™ builds on the proven 20 year record of TES 295® fluids by delivering greater performance with a modern additive package. TES 668™ also provides a streamlined approach to aftermarket approvals which allows broader availability of approved fluids to OEMs and end users.
- Which Allison products will be using the TES 668™ transmission fluids?
 - The initial release of TES 668™ fluids will be with the Allison 1000, 2000, 3000, and 4000 Series products.
 - The H 40/50 EP™ products will continue to use TES 468™ fluids.
- When is Allison changing to this fluid?
 - Beginning January 1, 2021 all Allison factories will begin using TES 668™ as the new factory fill fluid for all new 1000, 2000, 3000, and 4000 Series On-Highway products.
- Are we required to change to this fluid?
 - While there is no requirement at this point to switch to the new fluid, Allison recommends that all OEMs, channel partners, and end users begin to transition to TES 668™.
- Are the different fluids that Allison supports compatible with each other or will they need to be switched at the time when Allison's factories change?
 - Fluid can be mixed with TES 295® and TES 389®.
- What is the cost of this fluid going to be?
 - Because Allison Transmission does not sell fluids, it does not set the price of TES 668™. Please contact an approved oil marketer to obtain a quotation.
- Who are the suppliers of the new fluid?
 - Visit <https://www.allisontransmission.com/parts-service/approved-fluids/> for a full list of approved suppliers.
- Will Allison still honor the existing oil change/drain intervals if there is a mixture of TES 295® with TES 668™? What about if there is a mixture of TES 668™ and TES 389®?
 - Yes:
 - The oil change/drain interval for the TES 668™ fluids is the same as the TES 295® fluids, and thus is the same as for a mixture of the TES 668™ and the TES 295® fluids.
 - The oil change/drain interval for a mixture of TES 668™ and TES 389® fluids is the same as a mixture of TES 295® and TES 389® fluids.
- With Allison's 5th Generation and 6th Generation Controls, how do you select TES 668™ for prognostics?
 - Use the TES 295® selection option.
- Will there be any impact on warranty or Extended Transmission Coverage (ETC)?
 - No, there will be no impact on warranty or ETC as TES 668™ is superseding TES 295®. TES 668™ fluid meets the terms of warranty and ETC policies.
- Do locations have to fully exhaust one holding tank of the old fluid before filling with the new fluid?
 - No, these approved fluids are compatible in all proportions.

- If mixing TES 295® and TES 668™, the fluids offer the same claims and drain intervals.
- For Channel Partners, if an end user is switching from TES 389® to TES 668™, they will have to continue to follow the TES 389® maintenance and oil drain intervals until two fluid changes with only TES 668™ fluid have occurred, at which time the TES 668™ schedule may begin being used.
- For OEMs, if switching from a TES 389® to TES 668™ fluid, fluid samples should be taken to verify when the new fluid is “fully” TES 668™.
 - An oil marketer may have specific requests or requirements independent of Allison Transmission’s requirements outlined in this document related to the changeover.
- Does the use of TES 668™ fluid affect the certification for the EU HDV CO2 (2017/2400*2019/318) regulations?
 - Yes, the certificate numbers and related XML files will be updated and made available for OEMs. Please note that there will not be a change to the transmission efficiency performance, and the Vecto results will be the exact same for both the current and new XML files.