



FMC Corporation
Recreational Vehicle Division
222 Brown Road Box 684 Santa Clara, California 95052

☐ URGENT

☐ ROUTINE

☐ MANDATORY

☒ INFORMATIONAL

Service Bulletin

DATE 21 September 1973

NUMBER 2900 40004

ATTENTION: SERVICE MANAGER AND OWNERS

GROUP 0

GASOLINE

CERTIFIED OCTANE NUMBER

Phase IV of the Presidents Cost of Living Council imposed ceiling prices on gasoline sold at retail. Along with the ceiling price is a requirement that a "Certified Octane Number" be posted for each grade of gasoline. This "Certified Octane Number" is not the usual manner of rating gasolines that most of us are accustomed to. It is a combination of two methods of measuring a gasoline; namely the Research Method (RON) and the Motor Method (MON). The numerical values of each method are added and this sum is then divided by 2 to obtain the "Certified Octane Number" which is posted on the retailers gasoline pump.

SUBJECT ☒

GASOLINE OCTANE
NUMBERS AT RE-
TAILERS PUMP

OWNERS MANUAL DATA

The Owners Manual for your coach specifies the use of 91 octane gasoline having a minimum of 0.5 grams per gallon of lead. These specifications are still applicable; however, the "Certified Octane Number" equaling the published 91 octane would be 89. In other words, you can use a gasoline with a "Certified Octane Number" of 89 or better in your coach.

MODEL(S)
AFFECTED

2900R

(Factory Use Only)
Information
added to:

CAUTION

Never use a completely lead free gasoline
Use of such could cause valve seat damage, result in excessive exhaust emissions, poor performance, and possible engine failure. With the coach engine at the rear, engine knock cannot be readily heard as in a conventional vehicle. This makes it all the more important that your coach ALWAYS be serviced with a gasoline having a minimum "Certified Octane Number" of 89 and that it contains a minimum of 0.5 grams per gallon of lead.

OWNER MANUAL(S)

SERVICE MANUAL(S)

PARTS MANUAL(S)

WARRANTY MANUAL(S)

OTHER

The use of gasoline with a higher "Certified Octane Number" than specified, for example, "Premium" instead of "Regular", does not produce any additional power for your coach. The consistent use of "Premium" gasoline in a coach designed to use "Regular" is wasteful and is not recommended. Use of "low-lead" gasoline meeting octane and lead requirements is permissible.



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OCTANE NUMBERS

The Research Octane Number (RON) is determined in a single cylinder engine under special laboratory conditions. The Motor Octane Number is determined in the same type of engine, but under more realistic driving conditions. The Research Octane Number (RON) is usually about 8 numbers higher than the Motor Octane Number (MON). The difference between the two is called the "sensitivity" of the fuel. The new posted "Certified Octane Number" is somewhere between the RON and MON numbers.

SUBJECT

GASOLINE OCTANE
NUMBERS AT RE-
TAILERS PUMP

LEAD ADDITIVES

The octane rating of a gasoline is influenced by the types and amounts of hydrocarbons in the base stock as well as by the amount of lead added. Lead is added to achieve the final 6 to 8 octane numbers (RON). Lead acts as a high temperature lubricant and helps to prevent valve damage caused by a welding action between the valve and its seat. Materials for valves and valve seats on your coach engine were chosen on the basis that fuels would contain some lead. The 0.5 grams of lead minimum per gallon prescribed ensures protection for the coach engine. For this reason it is important that you observe the CAUTION regarding use of lead-free gasolines.

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OWNER MANUAL (S)

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John L. Strever

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Service Manager