

AKPF (Arbeits-Kreis Partikel Filter

Association of Key-experts in Particle Filtertechnology)

AKPF (acronym: **Arbeitskreis Partikelfilter** or **Association of Key People in Filtertechnology**) was formed as a task force of experts in Diesel exhaust, meeting twice a year in Zurich, Switzerland, exchanging views year round and disseminating pertinent news of developments. It is the industrial off-spring of the project VERT of the occupational health authorities in Austria, Germany and Switzerland, AUVA, TBG and SUVA, originally aimed at preventive health care for tunnelling-construction sites only.

Meanwhile, the aim of this working group has broadened considerably, providing invaluable services to both, industry, government and the public in general, acting far beyond the scope of a mere trade organisation. Industrial stakeholders and government officials are permanently co-operating with regard to setting objectives, guidelines and regulations in improving the environment; there were never separate meetings of public administrators and of industry only.

In recent years concern about health effects of Diesel particulate matter, in particular of nano-particles within Diesel soot, elementary carbon has risen considerably due to findings at various research institutions of rank.

AKPF is aiming to assist authorities in drafting regulations on the basis of their expert findings and opinions; for instance AKPF discussion brought about an ongoing reconsideration of particle definition (PM- versus number count criteria).

AKPF takes great interest in harmonisation efforts of diesel Particulate Filter (DPF-) testing procedures, which is of utmost importance for governments and industry. The VERT-test, also sometimes called Swiss testing procedure, is recognised in a variety of countries, assuring an efficiency of 99% even after 2000hours of operation and it safeguards against secondary and undesirable effects of catalysts.

AKPF provides information on the state of the art of filter-technology and of measurement, which is an invaluable service to public administrations.

AKPF is open to anybody from industry or from government whose terms of reference may include exhaust of combustion engines.

For more information visit www.akpf.org or contact:

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