

State of California  
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

EXECUTIVE ORDER D-494-1  
Relating to Exemptions under Section 27156  
of the Vehicle Code

LAPOINTE EXHAUST SYSTEM EQUIPMENT  
"THREE-WAY PLUS OXIDATION CATALYTIC CONVERTER SERIES LP10000/LP21000"

WHEREAS, Vehicle Code Sections 27156 and 38391, and Title 13, California Code of Regulations (hereafter "CCR") Section 2222(h), authorize the California Air Resources Board (ARB) and its Executive Officer to exempt new aftermarket catalytic converter from the prohibitions of Vehicle Code Section 27156.

WHEREAS, LaPointe Exhaust System Equipment (LaPointe) of 3155 Blvd. Losch #1 St-Hubert, Quebec, Canada J3Y 3V6, has applied to the ARB for exemption from the prohibitions in Vehicle Code Sections 27156 and 38391 to market their new aftermarket series LP10000/LP21000 three-way plus oxidation catalytic converter (TWC + OC) for the following application, except for vehicles equipped with an on-board diagnostic II (OBD-II) system:

Converter Type	Series Number	Converter Use	Max. Eng. Size	Max. Veh. Test Wt.
TWC + OC	LP10000 (Round)	TWC + OC	5.9L (360 CID)	6,000 lbs. (GVWR = 7,140 lbs.)
	LP21000 (Oval)	TWC + OC		
	LP10000 (Round)	TWC		
	LP21000 (Oval)	TWC		

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority vested in the Executive Officer by Health and Safety Code Section 39515 and in the Chief, Mobile Source Operations Division by Health and Safety Code Section 39516 and Executive Order G-45-9, the ARB finds that the above aftermarket catalytic converter complies with the California Vehicle Code Section 27156 and Title 13, California Code of Regulations, Section 2222(h). Emission performance of the catalytic converter was based on durability bench-aging by DMC-2 Division of OMG Corporation using its DMC2 300 bench-aging cycle in lieu of the AMA driving cycle (Reference Appendix IV, Title 40, part 86, Code of Federal Regulations (June 28, 1977)).

WHEREAS, emissions tests conducted at Automotive Testing Development Services (ATDS), Ontario, California, using a 1990 Dodge Ram Van 5.9L, and a 1994 Dodge Pickup 2500 5.9L showed the following conversion efficiencies which meet the minimum requirements for new aftermarket catalytic converters:

Catalyst Application Type

<u>Pollution Component</u>	<u>TWC + OC</u>	<u>TWC</u>
HC: Min. Requirement	70%	70
Lapointe's series LP10000/LP21000	75.3	82.3
CO: Min. Requirement	70	70
Lapointe's series LP10000/LP21000	76.2	79.0
NOx: Min. Requirement	50	60
Lapointe's series LP10000/LP21000	55.0	77.6

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the above catalytic converter is exempt from the prohibitions in Vehicle Code Section 27156 for installation on the approved vehicle applications subject to the following conditions:

1. No changes are permitted to the catalytic converter as described in the application for exemption. Any changes to the catalytic converter or any of its components, and other factors addressed in this order must be evaluated and approved by the ARB prior to marketing in California.
2. Marketing of the catalytic converter using identifications other than those shown in the exemption application, and in this Executive Order, or marketing of the catalytic converter for application other than the ones shown in this Executive Order shall be prohibited unless prior approval is obtained from the ARB. Exemption of this product shall not be construed as an exemption to sell, offer for sale, or advertise any components of the catalytic converter as individual devices.
3. Any oral or written references to this Executive Order or its content by LaPointe Exhaust System Equipment, its principals, agents, employees, distributors, dealers, or other representatives must include the disclaimer that the Executive Order or the exemption it provides is not an endorsement or approval of any emission reduction claims for the catalytic converter and is only a finding that the catalytic converter is exempt from the prohibitions of Vehicle Code Section 27156.
4. LaPointe Exhaust System Equipment's installation instructions for the new catalytic converter must conform to requirements in Paragraphs I and IX of California Evaluation Procedures for New Aftermarket Non-Original Equipment Catalytic Converters.
5. Upon installation, the catalytic converter must carry a manufacturer's warranty for 25,000 miles on the substrates and 50,000 miles or five years on the shell and end pipes.

Violation of any of the above conditions shall be grounds for revocation of this order. The order may be revoked only after ten day written notice of intention to revoke it, during which period the holder of the order may request in writing a hearing to contest the proposed revocation. If a hearing is requested, it shall be held within ten days of receipt of the request, and the order may not be revoked until a determination is made, after the hearing, that grounds for revocation exist:

Executed at El Monte, California, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March 2002.



Allen Lyons, Chief  
New Vehicle/Engine Programs Branch

## EVALUATION SUMMARY

Manufacturer Name: LaPointe Exhaust System Equipment

Name of Device: Series 10000 & 21000 three-way plus oxidation catalytic converter (TWC + OC).

Background:

LaPointe Exhaust System Equipment (LaPointe) of 3155 Boul. Losch St-Hubert, Québec, Canada J3Y 1V6, has applied for an exemption from the prohibitions in Section 27156 of the California Vehicle Code (VC) for its series 10000 (round) & 21000 (oval) new aftermarket TWC + OC. The new aftermarket catalytic converter is for installation on vehicles not equipped with On-Board Diagnostics II systems (pre-OBD-II vehicles) with the application limits of 5.9L engine size and 6,000 pounds equivalent test weight (ETW).

Recommendation:

Grant exemption to LaPointe as requested, and issue Executive Order D-494-1.

Device Description:

LaPointe's new aftermarket TWC + OC is designed in both oval and round substrates. Each configuration uses two ceramic monolith substrates. The front and rear substrates are both coated with platinum and rhodium in the ratio of 4:1. The dimensions of the front and rear oval substrates are 4.75 inches for the major axis, 3.15 inches for the minor axis, and 2.00 inches in length. The dimensions of the front and rear round substrates are 3.66 inches for the diameter and 2.00 inches in length. The substrates are contained in a shell constructed from 409-grade stainless steel. The substrates are wrapped with vermiculite insulation with metal shield, to prevent vibration and exhaust by-pass. The shell is sealed by metal stamping and tig-welding. A piece of aluminized heat shield is spot-welded to the upper side of the converter to protect the vehicle underbody from excessive heat. The catalyst may be sold as a unit with installation instructions or may be used in customized direct fit exhaust applications. It carries a warranty for 25,000 miles on the substrates, and five years or 50,000 miles on the container or shell, and the end pipes.

DMC-2 Canada Corporation is the catalyst supplier for LaPointe's series 10000 & 21000 TWC + OC.

Discussion/Basis for Exemption Recommendation:

LaPointe submitted data on the series 10000 & 21000 TWC + OC from testing conducted at Automotive Testing and Development Services (ATDS), Ontario, California. Two oval and two round test catalysts were bench-aged by DMC-2 Canada Corporation (DMC-2) using its DMC2 300 bench-aging cycle for a period of 50 hours. DMC-2 shipped the aged catalysts directly to ATDS for the emission testing. The emission tests were conducted using a 1990 Dodge Ram Van 5.9L for the TWC + OC application, and a 1994 Dodge Ram 2500 Truck 5.9L for the TWC application.

The evaluation of the series 10000 & 21000 TWC + OC is solely based on the bench-aging performed by DMC-2 and emission tests conducted at ATDS. The limits of application of LaPointe's series 10000 & 21000 TWC + OC will be 5.9L/6,000 lbs., with the corresponding maximum gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 7,140 lbs. The test catalysts were labeled LP315HPT5PTA and LP315HPT5PTB for the oval substrate, and LP366HPT5A and LP366HPT5B for the round substrate. Testing consisted of two cold-start CVS-75 tests

with a simulator ("dummy" catalyst), followed by two cold-start CVS-75 tests for each of the four test catalysts. The conversion efficiency was separately calculated for each configuration. The overall conversion efficiency of LaPointe's series 10000 & 21000 TWC + OC is the average of the conversion efficiencies of the oval and the round catalysts. The test results for the series 10000 & 21000 catalyst are shown below:

Automotive Testing and Development Services, Ontario, California

Conversion Efficiency (%)

	<u>Oval A</u>	<u>Oval-B</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Round A</u>	<u>Round B</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Overall Efficiency</u>
<u>TWC + OC</u>							
HC	77.9	75.5	76.7	75.5	72.5	74.0	75.3
CO	81.6	78.3	79.9	74.8	70.2	72.5	76.2
NOx	52.2	52.6	52.4	59.6	55.8	57.7	55.0
<u>TWC</u>							
HC	82.4	80.7	81.5	83.2	83.0	83.1	82.3
CO	80.0	77.7	78.8	78.9	79.8	79.3	79.0
NOx	77.6	76.7	77.1	78.5	77.8	78.1	77.6

The above test results meet the minimum requirements of the California regulations on new aftermarket catalytic converters. The Air Resources Board (ARB) did not conduct any confirmatory tests on the new aftermarket catalytic converter.