ITALIAN AUTHORITY JOINS GERMANY AND SPAIN REQUIRING TYPE-APPROVAL COMPLIANCE FOR TURBOCHARGERS

Italian transportation authority follows trend in Europe for including turbos in performance discussions of aftermarket parts which help achieve energy and environmental targets

ROLLE, Switzerland – July 31, 2015 – Honeywell (NYSE: HON) supports the recent opinion issued by the Ufficio Motorizzazione Civile Milano to include turbochargers among those auto parts requiring proper certification as a means of enforcing environmental targets, which can be compromised by non-genuine aftermarket parts.

The agency joins the German Federal Department of Transportation (BMVI) and the Spanish Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism as the third regulatory agency in Europe to make a statement in support of including turbos among those automotive components being type-approval relevant. In all three countries, a drop-in turbo generally requires a specific parts certification or vehicle inspection, potentially including a successful emissions test. This is an important consideration for garages and installers as they advise their customers.

In Italy, infringements may result in fines. Italian authorities may even force vehicles out of service with type-approval relevant replacement parts without the proper certification.

“The Ufficio Motorizzazione Civile Milano is echoing what Spain and Germany have already clarified in recent statements clearly aligning with European desires to address more stringent emission standards and requirements for greater fuel economy,” said Olivier Rabiller, Honeywell Transportation Systems vice president and general manager Business Development, High Growth Regions and Aftermarket. “This remains a key issue for the industry, garages and its customers as no one wins from using a replacement part that does not allow the vehicle to perform as it was intended.”
“There is a risk to the installer’s business through repetitive warranty repairs as well as putting their customers at risk when you consider the cost of an inefficient engine in terms of performance, poor fuel economy or emission issues,” Rabiller said.

Other countries are expected to also increase the focus on turbochargers by name as being emissions- and safety-relevant engine components that may not be freely exchanged with improper non-genuine parts.

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