

# CARE FOR COOLANT

More than 40% of all heavy-duty engine problems are found to originate in the cooling system, where corrosion, cavitation, and scale can send foreign material circulating through the heater core. When you are promoting winter maintenance, remind customers about these simple tips for coolant care:

1. **There is no standard color “code” in the industry.** Coolant classification is what is important. Look for an ASTM D6210 coolant, which is designed to protect against cavitation of wet liners and protect hot surfaces against scale.
2. **Most engine OEM’s require that the coolant base have a concentration between 40 - 60%.** This can be checked in the field using a refractometer. Too much ethylene glycol can cause steel clamps, the copper heater core and cast-iron components to wear out.
3. **Water quality matters.** Avoid tap water, which is hard and can react with additives causing them to become insoluble.

When you are talking about winter HVAC Preventive Maintenance, do not take coolant for granted. The health of the engine – and the comfort of the operator – depend on it.