

KOMTRAX™ steps further into the future

Vilvoorde, September 2012 – Komatsu announces the upgrade of KOMTRAX™, their leading telematics system, for all machines equipped with the latest Komatsu EU stage IIIB technology.

KOMTRAX™, Komatsu's exclusive wireless monitoring system, is factory fitted on most Komatsu machines. For many years, it's been at the peak of machine monitoring technology, providing a wealth of information in a user friendly format to facilitate efficient machine performance. It optimizes fleet management, allows proactive and preventive maintenance and generally helps to run an earthmoving business efficiently. KOMTRAX™ reports the service meter readings and machine location information, but can also send detailed data about idle time, fuel consumption and workload. KOMTRAX™ helps to quickly identify the inefficient operation of a machine and allows appropriate training to be provided.

Today's upgraded version of KOMTRAX™ will send more data and new detailed reports to meet the challenges brought on by the latest EU Stage IIIB emissions regulations and for a more precise monitoring of Komatsu machines.

"Crises offer possibilities" says Dr Daniel Heussen, Komtrax Manager at Komatsu Europe International. "Concerns about the state of our environment have led us to improve Komatsu engines with the most innovative technology. KOMTRAX™ evolved in parallel with our engines and now offers enhanced and highly detailed monitoring in order to guarantee the efficient utilisation of Komatsu EU stage IIIB machines."

New data includes details about the type of work the machine is doing and a performance report of Komatsu's new EU stage IIIB engine and its Komatsu Diesel Particle Filter (KDPF). KOMTRAX™ communicates the number of active KDPF regenerations performed by the machine, and the time spent doing them. In addition to total fuel consumption, KOMTRAX™ now provides fuel consumption during Actual Working Hours. For bulldozers and excavators KOMTRAX™ sends data about the throttle dial position and, for EU stage IIIB wheel loaders and articulated dump trucks, KOMTRAX™ monitors Travel distance and Payload data.

The new reports are a Monthly and Annual Operation Mode Record, a Monthly and Annual Economy-mode Record, a Monthly and Annual Travel Record and, for hydraulic excavators, a Monthly and Annual Breaker Hours Record. Each of these reports pitches the working hours against either the various operation modes such as the Economy mode, the travel time or the number of hours an attachment was used by an excavator. KOMTRAX™ now also reports the frequency at which energy-saving cautions are displayed on the cab monitor of new machines. These can be warnings for extended idle time, hydraulic relief and overload, as well as recommendations for expert use of economy mode and throttle dial.

The new reports provide guidance to operators and encourage the efficient utilisation of the machine. They also assist in optimising workflows on jobsites by helping to identify bottlenecks, for instance where machines idle or travel unnecessarily for extended distances.

Dr Heussen declared: "The improvements we have made to KOMTRAX™ are a testimony to Komatsu's commitment to outstanding technology, to provide key assets to maximise efficiency, and to be a reliable partner for our customers and distributors".

Information in Komatsu Europe International news releases is current on the date of the announcement and is subject to change without notice.

Contacts:

Kevin Broman
Corporate Branding Coordinator
Komatsu Europe International N.V.
+32 2 255 24 58
kevin.broman@komatsu.eu

Dr. Daniel Heussen
KOMTRAX Manager
Komatsu Europe International N.V.
+32 2 255 24 67
daniel.heussen@komatsu.eu

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