

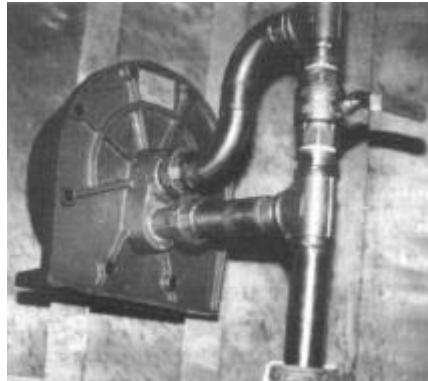
A COUP FOR NEW ZEALAND ENGINEERING EXPERTISE

When Tranz Rail's Lynx fast ferry returned to the Baltic, its diesel fuel contamination problems were overcome by New Zealand designed and manufactured decontamination units.

The Lynx picked up contaminated fuel on its delivery voyage to New Zealand in late November. Engineers spent nearly three months treating the fuel with biocides, but without success.

Lindsay Forrest, developer of the De-Bug decontamination units, explains that diesel is an organic fuel and a food to microscopic fungi, yeast and bacteria, as there is water for germination, carbon for food, oxygen or sulphur for respiration, and trace elements for growth.

The microbes cannot be kept out. They enter the fuel as air- or waterborne spores and can be responsible for dirty filters, faulty fuel gauges, fuel starvation or corrosion, and increased acidity.



Early research by Lindsay Forrest's company, now De-Bug Worldwide Limited, indicated that microbes are disrupted and die when they are passed through a carefully calculated magnetic field for a controlled length of time. They can then pass harmlessly through filters to be burnt as part of the normal engine combustion process.

In order to eliminate their fuel

contamination problems and regain optimum performance for the Lynx, its owners, Condor Marine Services, borrowed De-Bug's portable fuel polishing unit and two De-Bug decontamination units as a temporary measure.

Their performance was so successful that the owners gave permission for the vessel to be fully equipped with De-Bug units. Four L4000 units, with capacities up to 4000 litres per hour, were installed, one for each engine, and four L1000 units were fitted for the generators.

Manufactured in the Hutt Valley, De-Bug units are patented in 27 countries and used around the world for land and sea applications including the Royal Navy and other military forces.

Further information is available from De-Bug Worldwide Limited, PO Box 38 100, Wellington Mail Centre, fax 0-4-568 8328.