

Fuel Filters

In this article we are going to give you a simple insight into the features and benefits of the different types to help you choose the correct filter for your application, whether you're considering Turbine, Spin-On or Snapp.

Turbine

Racor turbine units are not only a highly efficient filter, they are also one of the easiest filter units to service with no tools required. They have a T handle which removes the lid so the paper element inside can be easily replaced with no mess.

When fuel first enters the filter it hits the turbine centrifuge in the middle of the filter, this separates the larger particles and frees water through centrifugal action. Around 30% of contaminants are removed at this stage!

Finally, the fuel reaches the element to remove the remaining particles and water. Turbines are most commonly used in fuel polishing systems and on larger engines due to their high flow rates. The initial cost is more, but elements are less expensive when compared to spin on filters.



Spin On

The spin-on filters are an ideal choice for a seasonal boater and where space is limited. They are serviced by using a filter wrench to loosen the old element and then you need to remove the collection bowl and refit this to the new element, securing to the filter head.

With the spin-on filter, all the filtering is carried out by the element. Some spin-on filters have primer pumps to prime the filter after an element change. The turbine range of filters don't have primers as you can top up the element housing with fuel after the new element has been replaced, which eliminates the need for priming the filter.



Snapp

The Racor Snapp filter is a one piece filter unit designed to fit into the pipework while being mounted into a separate bracket. When it comes to changing the filter you simply snap the old filter out and replace with the new. Removal doesn't require any tools and can even be done with one hand thanks to the two large tabs on the side of the filter. Due to the construction of the filter, no mess is created because there is no disassembly needed!

At a quick glance, the Racor snapp filter looks similar in design to the spin-on range, however, the snapp filter is housed in a glass filled nylon body which is rust and corrosion proof.



Which bowl?

The preferred choice seems to be a see through bowl so you are able to tell if there is any water in your fuel. However, certain regulations do not allow the use of a see through bowl and therefore require you to have a metal bowl or heat shield fitted.

