

Fuel Cell Fill Question.

Posted by 1M Fan - 26 Nov 2015 21:04

I'm a little confused about fuel cells. In building a new car and want to install a small

Fuel cell, 8 gallons or a little larger. The rules say they can be used, but also state you must fill gas via the factory fill. Does that still apply to fuel cells? It will be more expensive, much harder to install and build the bulkhead if I have to plumb the factory fill.

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Re: Fuel Cell Fill Question.

Posted by AgRacer - 01 Dec 2015 09:48

We have a car in the Southeast with a fuel cell. I believe it is 10 gallons and not a saddle style so it sits up higher just a bit. It was done for safety reasons as the builder thought it much better to have a cell over the stock. He is not currently in compliance with this rule stipulation because I didn't correlate the two back when I told him it was okay to install it. He fills the tank through its cap with the hatch open like any other car which has a cell mounted in the trunk. There is an enclosure built over the top which provides a barrier to the inside of the car.

I don't much care of the early metal tanks as they often rust out and junk up the fuel system. The plastic ones are okay but either way, it sure is a pain to do anything with the fuel tank on these cars given the design.

From what I know of fuel cells, a saddle style design which fit into the stock location would likely be prohibitively expensive given our cars overall value which is why a more traditional box style cell would be chosen, even if it would only hold about 10 gallons.

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Re: Fuel Cell Fill Question.

Posted by 1M Fan - 01 Dec 2015 10:17

Mine was a metal tank. A replaced all the venting parts with new parts from the local Porsche dealer. They weren't expensive, but didn't fix the problem. I even tried venting to the outside to no avail. There are 8 and 10 gallon tanks that should rest on top the transmission brace and be plenty big. I burn about 1 gallon every ten minutes of racing.

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Re: Fuel Cell Fill Question.

Posted by Crooks - 01 Dec 2015 11:59

Ok so my fuel cell is 8gan ATL it actually holds about 7.5 I can send you pictures of the installation if you want. The only issue is if you wanted to run endurance racing you would need to re-fuel.

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Re: Fuel Cell Fill Question.

Posted by 1M Fan - 01 Dec 2015 13:32

Crooks wrote:

Ok so my fuel cell is 8gan ATL it actually holds about 7.5 I can send you pictures of the installation if you want. The only issue is if you wanted to run endurance racing you would need to re-fuel.

Pics would be cool. That's what I'm looking at

I suspect it's a bigger problem than people think. The first symptom of the tank expanding is gear change difficulties mid or late race. The tank is pushing down on the shift linkage

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Re: Fuel Cell Fill Question.

Posted by ChuckS - 01 Dec 2015 17:07

Just a suggestion:

The tank is vented by a line to the charcoal canister in the front DS fender. That line is controlled by the emissions junk on the DS rear of the engine compartment. If, you (or someone else) just plugged that line when you "made it a race car", you will have the tank bulging problems. You might want to look at that.