

# There's something nasty in our fuel and everybody knows

by Jeff Smit



**T**he words of a well-known Leonard Cohen song, *Everybody knows*, can be readily applied to the quality of the fuel in this country.

There are now so many complaints from workshops about fuel contamination that it begs the question, 'What is the real cause?'

A 1995 Peugeot 306XT came to a TaT workshop with the complaint that the engine was missing at 3,000 RPM.

The fuel pressure and flow were well down on specification.

All was revealed when the fuel pump assembly in the tank was removed.

After a thorough clean-out of the tank and fuel lines, a new fuel filter, fuel pump and strainer were fitted and the car was up and running.

These disgusting pictures show what we found in the fuel pump assembly. We have our suspicions, but no real proof.

The owner admitted running the vehicle on E10 fuel for some time. While we know about the moisture issues with this fuel, could it be so bad that it builds up this gunk, or was it just a bad batch of fuel?

TaT would like to hear from other technicians who have encountered this ever-increasing problem and if anyone has any great theories, we would like to hear them.

We don't like to point the finger, but it does seem more than coincidental that all types of contamination issues encountered in our workshops over the past decade were in vehicles using E10.

Is there an E10 expert out there who can throw some light on this?



## Autodata Online

Australia's most comprehensive technical information solution



- ✓ Order online for instant access
- ✓ \$102.30 per month\*
- ✓ Updated automatically

**Autodata**  
It's what we know

1300 764 432  
[www.autodata.com.au](http://www.autodata.com.au)



\*\$102.30 inc GST per month for a 12 month commitment

AD\_AUS\_MAY13\_TAT\_HP