



SURFACE VEHICLE STANDARD

J2469™

SEP2017

Issued 1999-07
Reaffirmed 2004-08
Stabilized 2017-09

Superseding J2469 AUG2004

Clutch Application Powertrain Startability Rating Requirements for Truck and Bus Applications

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Foreword—This SAE Recommended Practice is presented in response to a need to standardize startability calculation methods and requirements. Powertrain startability is a key factor in establishing a vehicle powertrain specification that will operate efficiently and give long service life. The four primary factors which affect how long a clutch will last in a given truck are:

- a. Powertrain specification (engine, clutch, transmission, axle, and tires)
- b. Control of drivetrain torsional activity
- c. Driver technique (starting gear selection, engagement technique, driving habits)
- d. Clutch maintenance (adjustment, lubrication, protection from rust and contamination)

The powertrain specification is not only one of these primary factors, but it also can have a major effect on another factor, driver technique. The final indicator of powertrain acceptability is the Startability Rating defined in this document.

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