

# Editor's Notes

## Internet Extras

The four page format of the printed *Counter Point* newsletter occasionally prevents us from including all of the material we have collected. Rather than discard this material, we've instituted this new department ("Editor's Notes"). Editor's Notes will only be available to *Counter Point* subscribers who have opted for Internet *Counter Point* delivery in Adobe portable document format (PDF).

## More On Smoke Machines

Smoke machines are a very handy diagnostic tool. If you're going to use one for EVAP leak detection, make sure the unit is approved for such use. The construction of some general purpose smoke machines makes them incompatible and potentially dangerous when used around combustible fuel vapors. Examples of EVAP-approved smoke machines from OTC and Vacutec are shown below.

*This EVAP-approved smoke machine from OTC is completely portable and runs off the vehicle battery. Adapters are provided to tap into the system at various points.*



*The Vacutec EVAPro is calibrated to test systems for either .020- or .040-inch leaks. A switch position is reserved for a future calibration, in case OBD II EVAP testing gets tighter.*



## Alternative EVAP System Leak Testing

If your shop does not currently own an EVAP-approved smoke machine, you still may be able to locate EVAP system leaks. The escaping HC vapors around an EVAP system leak can often be located using your shop's four, five (or even two) gas analyzer. A link to a video describing this time-saving technique can also be found on this site.

*The two screen captures below were taken from our video, which illustrates the use of a five gas analyzer to locate an EVAP leak on this Tracker.*



[PLAY VIDEO >](#)

## ASE Certification Test Registration Deadline



Registration for the Spring 2005 paper and pencil ASE certification tests ends on March 25, 2005. To register, go to [www.ase.com](http://www.ase.com) or call 703.669.6600.