

A Pilot Survey into the Problem of Motor Vehicle Air Pollution in Trinidad

L. Araujo and R. Harnarine

Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies

Abstract: *The question of air pollution is attracting worldwide attention today. In Trinidad and Tobago, as a developing nation, industrial air pollution from various refineries and factories produce tangible, in some cases visible, effects on the environment. While concern has often been expressed about the environment, to date no scientific testing of the ambient air in Trinidad and Tobago has been carried out. Samples of air collected from selected sites, which are scenes of heavy traffic conditions, were tested for two pollutants that are constituents of motor vehicle exhausts Carbon Monoxide and Nitrous Oxides. It was found that the air in one of the selected locations is unsatisfactory by any criterion, and the air in some of the other sites may be close to threshold conditions. Suggestions are made as to long and short-term measures which can be taken to deal with the situation.*

Keywords: *Air pollution problem, pollutants, motor vehicle, Trinidad and Tobago*