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(54) **Improvements in and relating to prime movers**

(57) A method of determining the probable wear experienced by a prime mover having moving parts which involves measuring the useful life of the prime mover under one particular operating condition and thus one rate of energy input e.g. fuel to arrive at an optimum life

and then measuring the life under other operating conditions such as load and environment to obtain compensating factors which can be applied to the energy input under these operating conditions to get a measure of the probable accumulated wear and thus its potential future useful life.

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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 97 65 0041

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13 January 1999	Examiner Buron, E
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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