



Standard Definitions of Terms Relating to PETROLEUM¹

This Standard is issued under the fixed designation D 288; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval.

In case of a dispute regarding the terms here defined, the definitions contained in this standard are to be used in their entirety, all notes and supplementary comments being considered as part of the definition.

asphalt—black to dark-brown solid or semi-solid cementitious material which gradually liquefies when heated, in which the predominating constituents are bitumens, all of which occur in the solid or semisolid form in nature or are obtained by refining petroleum, or which are combinations of the bitumens mentioned with each other or with petroleum or derivatives thereof.

benzine—this term is archaic and misleading and should not be used.

NOTE—The term "petroleum benzin" has appeared in the U.S. Pharmacopoeia for many years designating a refined light naphtha used for extraction purposes. This term should only be used for material meeting the U.S. Pharmacopoeia specifications. The term "benzin" should never be used without the prefix "petroleum."

crude petroleum—a naturally occurring mixture, consisting predominantly of hydrocarbons, or of sulfur or both, nitrogen or oxygen derivatives of hydrocarbons or both, which is removed from the earth in liquid state or is capable of being so removed.

NOTE—Crude petroleum is commonly accompanied by varying quantities of extraneous substances such as water, inorganic matter, and gas. The removal of such extraneous substances alone does not change the status of the mixture as crude petroleum. If such removal appreciably affects the composition of the oil mixture, then the resulting product is no longer crude petroleum.

crude shale oil—oil obtained as a distillate by the destructive distillation of oil-shale.

cymogene—this term is archaic and should not be used.

engine distillate—refined or unrefined petro-

leum distillate similar to naphtha, but often of higher distillation range.

extraction naphtha—naphtha suitable for extraction purposes.

NOTE—Specifications for extraction naphtha appear in ASTM Method D 855, Analysis of Oil-Soluble Sodium Petroleum Sulfonates.²

fuel oil—any liquid or liquefiable petroleum product burned for the generation of heat in a furnace or firebox, or for the generation of power in an engine, exclusive of oils with a flash point below 100 F (38 C), tag closed tester, and oils burned in cotton or woolwick burners. Fuel oils in common use fall into one of four classes:

(1) residual fuel oils, which are topped crude petroleum or viscous residuums obtained in refinery operations;

(2) distillate fuel oils, which are distillates derived directly or indirectly from crude petroleum;

(3) crude petroleum and weathered crude petroleum of relatively low commercial value; and

(4) blended fuels, which are mixtures of two or more of the three preceding classes.

gas oil—a liquid petroleum distillate having a

¹ These definitions are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-2 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants. Current edition effective Sept. 18, 1961. Originally issued 1928. Replaces D 288 - 57.

In 1961, definitions for *Petroleum Wax* and *Petrolatum* were added.

² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Part 23.