



Designation: D 664 – 07

An American National Standard
British Standard 4457



Designation 177/96

Standard Test Method for Acid Number of Petroleum Products by Potentiometric Titration¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 664; 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. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the Department of Defense.

1. Scope*

1.1 This test method covers procedures for the determination of acidic constituents in petroleum products and lubricants soluble or nearly soluble in mixtures of toluene and propan-2-ol. It is applicable for the determination of acids whose dissociation constants in water are larger than 10^{-9} ; extremely weak acids whose dissociation constants are smaller than 10^{-9} do not interfere. Salts react if their hydrolysis constants are larger than 10^{-9} . The range of acid numbers included in the precision statement is 0.1 mg/g KOH to 150 mg/g KOH.

NOTE 1—In new and used oils, the constituents that may be considered to have acidic characteristics include organic and inorganic acids, esters, phenolic compounds, lactones, resins, salts of heavy metals, salts of ammonia and other weak bases, acid salts of polybasic acids, and addition agents such as inhibitors and detergents.

1.2 The test method may be used to indicate relative changes that occur in oil during use under oxidizing conditions regardless of the color or other properties of the resulting oil. Although the titration is made under definite equilibrium conditions, the test method is not intended to measure an absolute acidic property that can be used to predict performance of oil under service conditions. No general relationship between bearing corrosion and acid number is known.

NOTE 2—The acid number obtained by this standard may or may not be numerically the same as that obtained in accordance with Test Methods D 974 and D 3339. There has not been any attempt to correlate this method with other non-titration methods.

NOTE 3—A few laboratories have made the observation that there is a

difference in Test Method D 664 results when aqueous versus nonaqueous buffers are used.

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents²

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 974 Test Method for Acid and Base Number by Color-Indicator Titration

D 1193 Specification for Reagent Water

D 3339 Test Method for Acid Number of Petroleum Products by Semi-Micro Color Indicator Titration

D 4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

D 4177 Practice for Automatic Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *acid number, n*—the quantity of base, expressed as milligrams of potassium hydroxide per gram of sample, required to titrate a sample in a specified solvent to a specified end point.

3.1.1.1 *Discussion*—This test method expresses the quantity of base as milligrams of potassium hydroxide per gram of sample, that is required to titrate a sample in a mixture of

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.06 on Analysis of Lubricants.

Current edition approved July 1, 2007. Published July 2007. Originally approved in 1942. Last previous edition approved in 2006 as D 664–06a^{ε1}.

This test method was adopted as a joint ASTM-IP standard in 1964. ASTM Test Method D 4739 has been developed as an alternative to the base number portion of D 664.

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard.