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Standard Test Method for Oxidation Stability of Aviation Fuels (Potential Residue Method)¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 873; 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 test method has been approved by the sponsoring committees and accepted by the Cooperating Societies in accordance with established procedures.

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

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the determination of the tendency of aviation reciprocating, turbine, and jet engine fuels to form gum and deposits under accelerated aging conditions.

NOTE 1—**Caution:** This test method² is not intended for determining the stability of fuel components, particularly those with a high percentage of low boiling unsaturated compounds, as these may cause explosive conditions within the apparatus.

NOTE 2—For the measurement of the oxidation stability (induction period) of motor gasoline, refer to Test Method D 525.

1.2 The accepted SI unit of pressure is the kilo pascal (kPa); the accepted SI unit of temperature is °C.

1.3 *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 Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 381 Test Method for Existent Gum in Fuels by Jet Evaporation³

D 525 Test Method for Oxidation Stability of Gasoline (Induction Period Method)³

D 4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products⁴

E 1 Specification for ASTM Thermometers⁵

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard

3.1.1 The following definitions of terms are all expressed in terms of milligrams per 100 mL of sample, after “X” hours aging, “X” being the accelerated aging (oxidation) period at 100°C.

3.1.1.1 *potential gum*— sum of the soluble and insoluble gum.

3.1.1.2 *precipitate*— sediment and suspended material in the aged fuel, obtained by filtering the aged fuel and washings from the glass sample container.

3.1.1.3 *insoluble gum*— deposit adhering to the glass sample container after removal of the aged fuel, precipitate, and soluble gum. Insoluble gum is obtained by measuring the increase in mass of the glass sample container.

3.1.1.4 *soluble gum*— deterioration products present at the end of a specific aging period. These deterioration products exist in solution in the aged fuel and as the toluene-acetone soluble portion of the deposit on the glass sample container. The soluble gum is obtained as a nonvolatile residue by evaporating the aged fuel and the toluene-acetone washings from the glass sample container.

3.1.1.5 *total potential residue*—sum of the potential gum and the precipitate.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 The fuel is oxidized under prescribed conditions in a pressure vessel filled with oxygen. The amounts of soluble gum, insoluble gum, and precipitate formed are weighed.

NOTE 3—**Precaution:** In addition to other precautions, to provide protection against the possibility of explosive rupture of the pressure vessel, the pressure vessel should be operated behind an appropriate safety shield.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 The results (of these tests) can be used to indicate storage stability of these fuels. The tendency of fuels to form

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-2 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.14 on Stability and Cleanliness of Liquid Fuels.

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² Further information can be found in the June 1978, January 1979, and June 1986 editions of the *Institute of Petroleum Review*.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 05.01.

⁴ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 05.02.

⁵ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 14.03.