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Standard Test Method for Cloud Point of Petroleum Products (Linear Cooling Rate Method)¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D5772; 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.

INTRODUCTION

This test method describes an alternative procedure for the determination of cloud point of petroleum products of Test Method **D2500/IP 219** using an automatic apparatus. The temperature results from this test method have been found to be equivalent to Test Method **D2500/IP 219**. When specification requires Test Method **D2500/IP 219**, do not substitute this test method or any other method without obtaining comparative data and agreement from the specifier.

1. Scope*

1.1 This test method covers the description of the determination of the cloud point of petroleum products and biodiesel fuels that are transparent in layers 40 mm in thickness by an automatic instrument using a linear cooling rate.

1.2 This test method covers the range of temperatures from -60 to 49°C with temperature resolution of 0.1°C , however, the range of temperatures included in the 1997 interlaboratory cooperative test program only covered the temperature range of -56 to $+34^{\circ}\text{C}$.

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

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 Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D2500 Test Method for Cloud Point of Petroleum Products

D4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

D4177 Practice for Automatic Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

2.2 *Energy Institute Standard:*

IP 219 Test Method for Cloud Point of Petroleum Products³

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *biodiesel, n*—a fuel comprised of mono-alkyl esters of long-chain fatty acids derived from vegetable oils or animal fats, designated B100.

3.1.1.1 *Discussion*—Biodiesel is typically produced by a reaction of vegetable oil or animal fat with an alcohol such as methanol or ethanol in the presence of a catalyst to yield mono-esters and glycerin. The fuel typically may contain up to 14 different types of fatty acids that are chemically transformed into fatty acid methyl esters (FAME).

3.1.2 *biodiesel blend, n*—a blend of biodiesel fuel with petroleum-based diesel fuel designated BXX, where XX is the volume percentage of biodiesel.

3.1.3 *cloud point, n*—in petroleum products and biodiesel fuels, the temperature of a liquid specimen when the smallest observable cluster of hydrocarbon crystals first occurs upon cooling under prescribed conditions.

3.1.3.1 *Discussion*—The cloud point occurs when the temperature of the specimen is low enough to cause hydrocarbon crystals to precipitate. In a homogeneous liquid, the cloud is always noted first at the location in the specimen where the

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **D02** on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **D02.07** on Flow Properties.

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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.

³ Available from Energy Institute, 61 New Cavendish St., London, WIG 7AR, U.K., <http://www.energyinst.org.uk>.

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