



Standard Test Method for Evaluation of Automotive Engine Oils in the Sequence IIIF, Spark-Ignition Engine¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 6984; 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 described can be used by any properly equipped laboratory; it does not require the assistance of anyone outside that laboratory. However, the ASTM Test Monitoring Center (TMC)² provides reference oils and an assessment of the test results obtained on those oils by the laboratory (see Annex A1). By these means, the laboratory will know whether their use of the test method gives results statistically similar to those obtained by other laboratories. Furthermore, various agencies require that a laboratory utilize the TMC services in seeking qualification of oils against specifications. For example, the U.S. Army imposes such a requirement in connection with several Army engine lubricating oil specifications.

Accordingly, this test method is written for use by laboratories that utilize the TMC services. Laboratories that choose not to use those services may simply ignore those portions of the test method that refer to the TMC.

This test method may be modified by means of Information Letters issued by the TMC. In addition, the TMC may issue supplementary memoranda related to the test method (see A1.8).

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers an engine test procedure for evaluating automotive engine oils for certain high-temperature performance characteristics, including oil thickening, varnish deposition, oil consumption, as well as engine wear. Such oils include both single viscosity grade and multiviscosity grade oils that are used in both spark-ignition, gasoline-fueled engines, as well as in diesel engines.

NOTE 1—Companion test methods used to evaluate engine oil performance for specification requirements are discussed in SAE J304.

1.2 The values stated in SI or other units shall be regarded as the standard. The values given in parenthesis are provided for information only.

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 requirements prior to use.*

1.4 This test method is arranged as follows:

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.B0 on Automotive Lubricants.

Current edition approved Dec. 1, 2003. Published January 2004.

² ASTM Test Monitoring Center, 6555 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206-4489. Internet address www.astmtmc.cmu.edu.

Subject	Section
Scope	1
Referenced Documents	2
Terminology	3
Summary of Test Method	4
Significance and Use	5
Apparatus	6
Laboratory	6.1
Drawings	6.2
Specified Equipment	6.3
Test Engine	6.4
Engine Parts	6.4.1
Engine Speed and Load Control	6.5
Fluid Conditioning Module	6.6
Engine Cooling System	6.6.1
Flushing Tank	6.7
Coolant Mixing Tank	6.8
Condenser Cooling Systems	6.9
Engine Oil-Cooling System	6.10
Fuel System	6.11
Induction Air Supply Humidity, Temperature, and Pressure	6.12
Temperature Measurement	6.13
Thermocouple Location	6.13.1
Air-to-Fuel Ratio Determination	6.14
Injector Flow Testing	6.14.1
Exhaust and Exhaust Back Pressure Systems	6.15
Blowby Flow Rate Measurement	6.16
Pressure Measurement and Sensor Location	6.17
Reagents and Materials	7
Test Fuel	7.1
Engine and Condenser Coolant	7.2
Coolant Additive	7.3
Coolant Preparation	7.4
Pre-Test Cleaning Materials	7.5
Sealing and Anti-seize Compounds	7.6