



Standard Test Method for Automatic Particle Counting and Particle Shape Classification of Oils Using a Direct Imaging Integrated Tester¹

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1. Scope*

1.1 This test method covers the determination of particle concentration, particle size distribution, particle shape, and soot content for new and in-service oils used for lubrication and hydraulic systems by a direct imaging integrated tester.

1.1.1 The test method is applicable to petroleum and synthetic based fluids. Samples from 2 to 150 mm²/s at 40°C may be processed directly. Samples of greater viscosity may be processed after solvent dilution.

1.1.2 Particles measured are in the range from 4 μ m to $\geq$ 70 μ m with the upper limit dependent upon passing through a 100 μ m mesh inlet screen.

1.1.3 Particle concentration measured may be as high as 5 000 000 particles per mL without significant coincidence error.

1.1.4 Particle shape is determined for particles greater than approximately 20 μ m in length. Particles are categorized into the following categories: sliding, cutting, fatigue, nonmetallic, fibers, water droplets, and air bubbles.

1.1.5 Soot is determined up to approximately 1.5 % by weight.

1.1.6 This test method uses objects of known linear dimension for calibration.

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

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 appro-*

priate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D445 Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids (and Calculation of Dynamic Viscosity)

D2896 Test Method for Base Number of Petroleum Products by Potentiometric Perchloric Acid Titration

D4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

D4175 Terminology Relating to Petroleum, Petroleum Products, and Lubricants

D4177 Practice for Automatic Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

D5185 Test Method for Multielement Determination of Used and Unused Lubricating Oils and Base Oils by Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometry (ICP-AES)

D5967 Test Method for Evaluation of Diesel Engine Oils in T-8 Diesel Engine

D6304 Test Method for Determination of Water in Petroleum Products, Lubricating Oils, and Additives by Coulometric Karl Fischer Titration

D6595 Test Method for Determination of Wear Metals and Contaminants in Used Lubricating Oils or Used Hydraulic Fluids by Rotating Disc Electrode Atomic Emission Spectrometry

D7279 Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids by Automated Houillon Viscometer

E2412 Practice for Condition Monitoring of In-Service Lubricants by Trend Analysis Using Fourier Transform

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products, Liquid Fuels, and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.96 on In-Service Lubricant Testing and Condition Monitoring Services.

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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.