



Standard Practice for Evaluation of Antimicrobial Agents as Preservatives for Invert Emulsion and Other Water Containing Hydraulic Fluids¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E979; 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

Invert emulsion hydraulic fluids typically contain 60 % mineral oil and 40 % water (by volume). These fluids routinely are prepared using proprietary, oil-soluble, emulsifying agents, as well as other emulsifiable constituents. They are recommended for use where conditions indicate a low-cost, fire retardant product, compatible with water-based metal working fluids.

The high water content of these hydraulic fluids makes them susceptible to microbial attack. Uncontrolled microbial growth in these fluids can cause cartridge filter unit plugging, malodorous conditions, or general biodeterioration. Problem microorganisms associated with these fluids include bacteria and fungi.

The hydraulic system is essentially a closed one in which water of evaporation is added to maintain a fixed volume. The inclusion of an efficacious preservative in the water containing hydraulic fluids can prevent microbial growth and the resulting problems that follow.

1. Scope*

1.1 This laboratory practice is designed to evaluate the utility and effectiveness of antimicrobial agents intended to control microbial growth in invert emulsions and other water containing hydraulic fluids.

NOTE 1—Procedures for preparation of water soluble hydraulic fluids and recovery of organisms appear in Practice E2169.

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

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E35 on Pesticides, Antimicrobials, and Alternative Control Agents and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E35.15 on Antimicrobial Agents.

Current edition approved Oct. 1, 2015. Published February 2016. Originally approved in 1984. Last previous edition approved in 2009 as E979 – 09. DOI: 10.1520/E0979-09R15.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- D1129 Terminology Relating to Water
- D4454 Test Method for Simultaneous Enumeration of Total and Respiring Bacteria in Aquatic Systems by Microscopy (Withdrawn 2015)³
- D5465 Practice for Determining Microbial Colony Counts from Waters Analyzed by Plating Methods
- E1326 Guide for Evaluating Non-culture Microbiological Tests
- E2169 Practice for Selecting Antimicrobial Pesticides for Use in Water-Miscible Metalworking Fluids
- E2523 Terminology for Metalworking Fluids and Operations

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 The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.