February 2012

ACC’S PETROLEUM ADDITIVES CODE OF PRACTICE: 20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

American Chemistry Council
What is the ACC Code of Practice?

An effort by the Petroleum Additives Panel of the American Chemistry Council to address issues related to engine lubricants development and testing and to help ensure high quality engine oil products are available to the automobile industry.

Its purpose is also to help ensure an engine lubricant meets its performance specification

- Specified ASTM Tests
- Specified ASTM Procedures
- Record-keeping
Voluntary Compliance

Members of the petroleum additives panel voluntarily demonstrate compliance with the code, but compliance is not restricted to ACC member companies. All interested parties are invited to demonstrate compliance with the ACC Code of Practice.

The American Petroleum Institute’s (API) Engine Oil Licensing and Certification System (known as API 1509) currently indicates that all engine tests conducted in support of API certification and licensing be conducted according to the ACC Code of Practice.
Demonstrating Compliance

Voluntary compliance with the code is demonstrated by:

• An annual letter of intent

• An independent audit or a letter from the ACC Monitoring Agency

• A list of companies that have demonstrated compliance can be found here.
12 Core Practices

1. All tests use facilities which are current in ASTM TMC calibration and monitoring.

2. Tests must be registered with the ACC Monitoring Agency before they begin.

3. Test sponsor may choose test lab, but may not choose test stand.
12 Core Practices

4. Test results are reported with appropriate severity adjustments.

5. Test lab reports simultaneously to sponsor and to ACC Monitoring Agency. All test results must be supplied, and data are stored in the ACC Monitoring Agency database.
12 Core “Practices”

6. Bench tests must run in labs that participate in ASTM D-2 Interlaboratory Crosscheck Program.

7. Passing limits determined by MTEP on all operationally valid tests.
12 Core “Practices”

8. Sponsors and test labs may request opinions on test validity from the ACC Monitoring Agency. Such information will be included in Candidate Data Package.

9. Minor Formulation Modifications are permitted, within defined limits. All such data will be disclosed to the customer.
12 Core “Practices”

10. Programs will be conducted using specified Program Guidelines.

11. Code Compliance verified by an annual audit.

12. New tests are brought into the Code when they meet the Template for Acceptance of New Tests, and demonstration oil meets all performance requirements for that test.
ACC Code of Practice Benefits

Following the Code of Practice benefits industry by allowing for:

- More accurate performance results
- Level playing field
- Openness and transparency
Benefit: Allowing for More Accurate Performance Results

Allows for More Accurate Performance Results:

- Expedite product development
- Promote cost effective testing
- Confidence in test results
  - Calibrated test stands used
  - Interlaboratory Crosscheck program for bench tests
  - Statistical procedures used for data based decisions on limits / adjustments for severity adjustments
- Continuous improvement in accuracy and precision of engine tests
Benefit: Leveling the Playing Field

Leveling the playing field:

- Participants follow the same guidelines
- Independent test monitoring agency
  - Register tests
  - Collects data
  - Maintains and reports data
  - Provides expertise related to engine testing issues
- Supporting data required for formulation modification
- Auditing process in place for laboratory and test sponsors
Benefit: Facilitating Openness & Transparency

Openness and Transparency:

- Candidate Data Package documenting the test program and formulations covered for each program
  
  - Available from the sponsor for review
  - Contains all relevant information - formulations, physical tests, engine test reports, registration forms validity statements minor modification supporting documentation etc.
  
- Improved communication between sponsors and customers
Code Practitioners

The following companies have demonstrated compliance with the American Chemistry Council’s Code of Practice for the period of June 30, 2010 until June 30, 2011:

- Afton Chemical Corporation
- The Valvoline Company - Ashland
- BP Lubricants USA, Inc.
- Chevron Oronite Company, LLC
- BASF
- Infineum USA, LP
- FUCHS Europe
- The Lubrizol Corporation
- Lubricants UK, Ltd
- Intertek Automotive Research
- Test Engineering, Inc.
- Southwest Research Institute
- ExxonMobil Research and Engineering
In Summary

The ACC Petroleum Additives Product Approval Code of Practice is a voluntary system developed to allow continuous improvement in engine test programs.

- The system is transparent and open.

- The system helps provide more accurate results and assists in development of consistent and reproducible test programs.

- The system provides a level playing field.
For More Information

For more information, please contact PAPPTG Panel Manager Doug Anderson at
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Get the code at
www.americanchemistry.com/papptg