



Standard Test Method for High Temperature Universal Oxidation Test for Turbine Oils¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 6514; 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.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers a procedure for evaluating the oxidation of inhibited lubricants in the presence of air, copper, and iron metals.

1.2 This test method was developed and is used to evaluate the high temperature oxidation stability and deposit forming tendency of oils for steam and gas turbines. It has been used for testing other lubricants made with mineral oil and synthetic basestocks for compressors, hydraulic pumps, and other applications, but these have not been used in cooperative testing.

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as 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.* Identified hazardous chemicals are listed in Sections 7.3, 7.4 and 7.5. Before using this standard, refer to suppliers' safety labels, Material Safety Data Sheets and other technical literature.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

- A 510 Specification for General Requirements for Wire Rods and Coarse Round Wire, Carbon Steel²
- B 1 Specification for Hard-Drawn Copper Wire³
- D 445 Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids⁴
- D 664 Test Method for Acid Number of Petroleum Products by Potentiometric Titration⁴
- D 943 Test Method for Oxidation Characteristics of Inhibited Mineral Oils⁴
- D 974 Test Method for Acid and Base Number by Color-Indicator Titration⁴

D 3339 Test Method for Acid Number of Petroleum Products by Semi-Micro Color Indicator Titration⁵

D 4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products⁵

D 4871 Guide for Universal Oxidation/Thermal Stability Test Apparatus⁵

D 5846 Test Method for Universal Oxidation Test for Hydraulic and Turbine Oils Using the Universal Oxidation Test Apparatus⁶

2.2 British Standards:⁷

BS 1829 Specification for Carbon Steel, alternate to Specification A 510

2.3 Institute of Petroleum Standard:⁸

IP 2546 Practice for Sampling of Petroleum Products; Alternate to Practice D 4057

2.4 ASTM Adjunct⁹

ASTM Oxidation Cell Varnish Standard⁹

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.1.1 *Universal Oxidation Test*—the apparatus and procedures described in Guide D 4871.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 An oil sample is exposed to air at elevated temperatures in the presence of copper and iron metals. The test is run for 96 h at 155°C after which the viscosity increase, acid number increase, and sludge generated are measured. The test cell is also washed, dried, and compared with the ASTM Oxidation Cell Varnish Standard.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 Degradation of fluid lubricants because of oxidation or thermal breakdown can result in fluid thickening or in the

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 01.03.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 02.03.

⁴ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 05.01.

⁵ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 05.02.

⁶ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 05.03.

⁷ Available from British Standards Institute, 389 Chiswick High Rd., London, W4 4AL, U.K.

⁸ Available from Institute of Petroleum, 61 New Cavendish St., London, W1G 7AR, U.K.

⁹ Available from ASTM International Headquarters. Request ADJD6514. Names of suppliers in the United Kingdom can be obtained from the Institute of Petroleum. Two master standards are held by the IP for reference.

formation of acids or insoluble solids and render the fluid unfit for further use as a lubricant.

5.2 This test method can be used for estimating the oxidation stability of oils. It can function as a formulation screening tool, specification requirement, quality control measurements, or as a means of estimating remaining service life. These last three functions of the test method are expected to be fulfilled once a precision statement has been devised for the procedure. It should be recognized, however, that correlation between results of this test method and the oxidation stability of an oil in field service can vary markedly with field service conditions and with various oils.

5.3 This test method is designed to compliment Test Method D 5846 and is intended for evaluation of fluids which do not degrade significantly within a reasonable period of time at 135°C.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Heating Block*, as shown in Fig. 1, and as further

described in Guide D 4871, to provide a controlled constant temperature for conducting the test.

6.1.1 Test cells are maintained at constant elevated temperature by means of a heated aluminum block which surrounds each test cell. Alternate apparatus designs for sample heating and for temperature and flow control shall be acceptable, provided they are shown to maintain temperature and gas flow within the standard's specified limits.

6.1.2 Holes in the aluminum block to accommodate the test cells shall provide 1.0 mm maximum clearance for 38-mm outside diameter glass tubes. The test cells shall fit into the block to a depth of 225 ± 5 mm.

6.2 *Temperature Control System*, as shown at lower left in Fig. 1, and as further described in Guide D 4871, to maintain the test oils in the heating block at $155 \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ for the duration of the test.

6.3 *Gas Flow Control System*, as shown at the upper left in Fig. 1, and as further described in Guide D 4871, to provide dry



FIG. 1 Heating Block

air at a flow rate of 3.0 ± 0.5 L/h to each test cell.

6.3.1 A gas flow controller is required for each test cell.

6.3.2 Flowmeters shall have a scale length sufficiently long to permit accurate reading and control to within 5 % of full scale.

6.3.3 The total system accuracy shall meet or exceed the following tolerances:

6.3.3.1 Inlet pressure regulator within 0.34 kPa (0.05 psig) of setpoint; total flow control system reproducibility within 7 % of full scale; repeatability of measurement within 0.5 % of full scale.

6.4 *Oxidation Cell*, borosilicate glass, as shown in Fig. 2, and as further described in Guide D 4871. This consists of a test cell of borosilicate glass, standard wall, 38 mm outside diameter, 300 ± 5 -mm length, with open end fitted with a 34/45 standard-taper, ground-glass outer joint.

6.5 *Gas Inlet Tube*, as shown in Fig. 2, and as further described in Guide D 4871. This consists of an 8-mm outside diameter glass tube, 455 ± 5 mm long, lower end with fused capillary 1.5-mm inside diameter. The capillary bore shall be 15 ± 1 mm long. The lower tip is cut at a 45° angle.

6.6 *Basic Head*, as shown in Fig. 3, and as further described in Guide D 4871. This is an air condenser, with 34/45 standard-taper, ground-glass inner joint, opening for gas inlet tube, septum port for sample withdrawal, and exit tube to conduct off-gases and entrained vapors. Overall length shall be 125 ± 5 mm.

6.7 Test precision was developed using the universal oxidation/thermal stability test apparatus described in Guide D 4871.¹⁰ Alternate apparatus designs for sample heating, and for temperature and flow control shall be acceptable provided they are shown to maintain temperature and gas flow within the specified limits.

¹⁰ A standard commercial apparatus has been found satisfactory for the purpose of this method. This apparatus, including heating block, temperature control system, flow control system, and glassware, is available from Falex Corp., 1020 Airpark Drive, Sugar Grove, IL 60554-9585. Glassware for the Universal Oxidation test apparatus is also available from W.A. Sales, Ltd., 419 Harvester Ct., Wheeling, IL 60090.

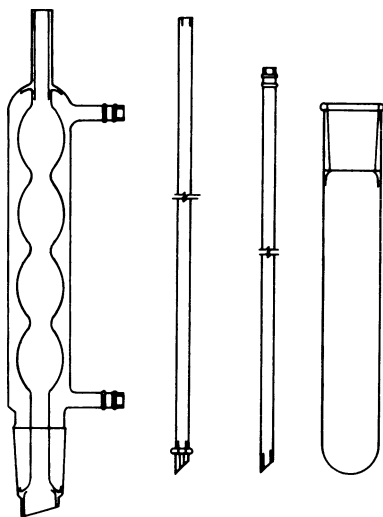


FIG. 2 Oxidation Cell

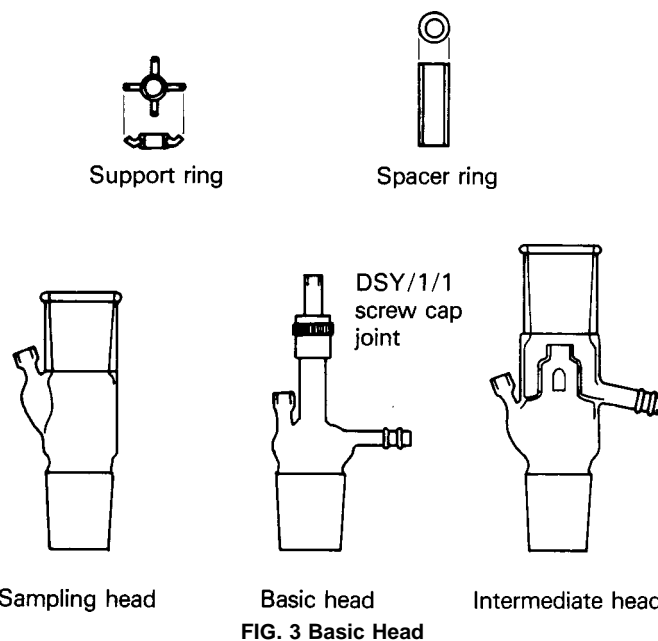


FIG. 3 Basic Head

6.8 *Drying Oven*, explosion proof.

7. Reagents and Materials

7.1 Reagent grade chemicals shall be used in all tests. Unless otherwise indicated, it is intended that all reagents conform to the specifications of the Committee on Analytical Reagents of the American Chemical Society, where such specifications are available.¹¹ Other grades may be used, provided it is first ascertained that the reagent is of sufficiently high purity to permit its use without lessening the accuracy of the determination.

7.2 *Catalyst Wire*.

7.2.1 *Low-Metalloid Steel Wire*, 1.59 mm in diameter (No. 16 Washburn and Moen Gage). Carbon steel wire, soft bright annealed and free from rust, of grade 1008 as described in Specification A 510, is preferred. Similar wire conforming to British Standard 1829 is also satisfactory.

7.2.2 *Electrolytic Copper Wire*, 1.63 mm in diameter (No. 14 American Wire Gage or No. 16 Imperial Standard Wire Gage), 99.9 % purity, conforming to Specification B 1, is preferred.

7.3 *Acetone*, reagent grade. (**Warning**—Flammable. Health hazard.)

7.4 *Heptane*, reagent grade. (**Warning**—Flammable. Health hazard.)

7.5 *Propan-2-ol (iso-Propyl Alcohol)*, reagent grade. (**Warning**—Flammable. Health hazard.)

7.6 *Abrasive Cloth*, silicon carbide, 100-grit with cloth backing.

7.7 *Whatman Filter Paper*, No. 41, 47 mm.

¹¹ *Reagent Chemicals, American Chemical Society Specifications*, American Chemical Society, Washington, DC. For suggestions on the testing of reagents not listed by the American Chemical Society, see *Analar Standards for Laboratory Chemicals*, BDH Ltd., Poole, Dorset, U.K., and the *United States Pharmacopeia and National Formulary*, U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention, Inc. (USPC), Rockville, MD.