



# Standard Test Method for Universal Oxidation Test for Hydraulic and Turbine Oils Using the Universal Oxidation Test Apparatus<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 5846; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers a procedure for evaluating the oxidation stability of petroleum base hydraulic oils and oils for steam and gas turbines.

1.2 This test method was developed to evaluate the oxidation stability of petroleum base hydraulic oils and oils for steam and gas turbines.

1.2.1 Rust and oxidation inhibited hydraulic, anti-wear hydraulic and turbine oils of ISO 32–68 viscosity were used to develop the precision statement. This test method has been used to evaluate the oxidation stability of fluids made with synthetic basestock and in-service oils; however, these fluids have not been used in cooperative testing to develop precision data.

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

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 7.2, 7.5, and 7.7. Before using this test method, 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 Steel<sup>2</sup>
- B 1 Specification for Hard-Drawn Copper Wire<sup>3</sup>
- D 329 Specification for Acetone<sup>4</sup>
- D 664 Test Method for Acid Number of Petroleum Products by Potentiometric Titration<sup>5</sup>
- D 770 Specification for Isopropyl Alcohol<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-2 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.09. ODon Lubricants.

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<sup>2</sup> Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 01.03.

<sup>3</sup> Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 02.03.

<sup>4</sup> Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 06.04.

<sup>5</sup> Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 05.01.

D 943 Test Method for Oxidation Characteristics of Inhibited Mineral Oils<sup>5</sup>

D 974 Test Method for Acid and Base Number by Color-Indicator Titration<sup>5</sup>

D 3339 Test Method for Acid Number of Petroleum Products by Semi-Micro Color Indicator Titration<sup>6</sup>

D 4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products<sup>7</sup>

D 4740 Test Method for Stability and Compatibility of Residual Fuels by Spot Test<sup>7</sup>

D 4871 Guide for Universal Oxidation/Thermal Stability Test Apparatus<sup>7</sup>

D 5770 Test Method for Semi-Quantitative Micro Determination of Acid Number of Used Lubricating Oils<sup>7</sup>

### 2.2 Institute of Petroleum Standard:<sup>8</sup>

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

### 2.3 British Standard:<sup>9</sup>

BS 1829 Specification for Carbon Steel Wire; alternate to Specification A 510

### 2.4 ASTM Adjuncts:

Reference Spot Sheet (Test Method D 4740), for visual rating of blotter spots<sup>10</sup>

## 3. Terminology

### 3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.1.1 *oxidation life, n*—of an oil, the time in hours required for degradation of the oil under test.

3.1.2 *inhibited mineral oil, n*—a petroleum oil containing additives to retard oxidation.

3.1.3 *universal oxidation test, n*—the apparatus and procedures described in Guide D 4871.

## 4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 An oil sample is contacted with air at 135°C in the presence of copper and iron metals. The acid number and spot forming tendency of the oil are measured daily. The test is

<sup>6</sup> Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 05.02.

<sup>7</sup> Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 05.03.

<sup>8</sup> Available from the Institute of Petroleum, 61 New Cavendish St., London, W1M 8AR, England.

<sup>9</sup> Available from British Standards Institute, 2 Park St., London, England W1A2B5.

<sup>10</sup> Available from ASTM Headquarters. Order PCN 12-427810.00.

terminated when the oxidation life of the oil has been reached.

4.2 The oil is considered to be degraded when either its acid number (measured by Test Methods D 974 or D 664) has increased by 0.5 mg KOH/g over that of new oil; or when the oil begins to form insoluble solids so that when a drop of oil is placed onto a filter paper it shows a clearly defined dark spot surrounded by a ring of clear oil.

### 5. Significance and Use

5.1 Degradation of hydraulic fluids and turbine oils, because of oxidation or thermal breakdown, can result in the formation of acids or insoluble solids and render the oil unfit for further use.

5.2 This test method can be used to estimate the relative oxidation stability of petroleum-base oils. It should be recognized that correlation between results of this test and the oxidation stability in use can vary markedly with service conditions and with various oils.

### 6. Apparatus

6.1 *Heating Block*, as shown on the right 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 a constant elevated temperature by means of a heated aluminum block which surrounds each test cell.

6.1.2 The test cells shall fit into the block to a depth of  $225 \pm 5$  mm. When centered, the side clearance of the 38 mm outside diameter glass tube to the holes in the aluminum block shall not exceed 1 mm in any direction.

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  $135 \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$  for the duration of the test.

6.3 *Gas Flow Control System*, as shown in the upper left in Fig. 1, and as further described in Guide D 4871, to provide dry air at a flow rate of  $3.0 \pm 0.5$  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: 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



FIG. 1 Apparatus, Showing Gas Flow Control System, Temperature Control System, and Heating Block

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,  $300 \pm 5$ -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, at least 455 long, lower end with fused capillary 1.5 to 3.5 mm inside diameter. The capillary bore shall be  $15 \pm 1$  mm long. The lower tip is cut at a 45° angle.

6.6 *Basic Head*, as shown in Fig. 2, 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  $125 \pm 5$  mm.

6.7 Test precision was developed using the universal oxidation/thermal stability test apparatus described in Guide

D 4871.<sup>11</sup> 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.

## 7. Reagents and Materials

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

7.2 *Acetone*, conforming to Specification D 329. (**Warning**—Acetone is flammable and a health hazard.)

7.3 *Air*, dry with dew point  $-60^\circ$ .

7.4 *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.

7.5 *Heptane*, knock-test grade, conforming to the following requirements: (**Warning**—*n*-Heptane is flammable and a health hazard.)

Density at 20°C	0.6826 to 0.6839
Refractive index at 20°C	1.3876 to 1.3879
Solidification temperature, min	$-90.72^\circ$
Distillation	50 % shall distill between $98.38^\circ$ and $98.48^\circ$ . Temperature rise between 20 and 80 % recovered shall be $0.20^\circ$ max

NOTE 1—**Warning:** *n*-Heptane is flammable and a health hazard.

7.6 *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.

7.7 *Propanol-2 (iso-Propyl Alcohol)*, conforming to Specification D 770 (**Warning**—*iso*-Propyl alcohol is flammable and a health hazard..

7.8 *Test Paper*, chromatographic or filter paper, cellulose, medium porosity, qualitative or quantitative grade. Cut the paper into 50 mm squares or use as larger sheets, ruled with hard pencil into 50 mm squares without cutting.<sup>12</sup> 846-99

## 8. Sampling

8.1 Samples for this test can come from tanks, drums, small containers, or operating equipment. Therefore, use the applicable apparatus and techniques described in Practice D 4057 or IP 2546 to obtain suitable samples.

8.2 Special precautions to preserve the integrity of a sample will not normally be required. Follow good laboratory practice. Avoid undue exposure of samples to sunlight or strong direct light. Use only samples that are homogeneous on visual inspection.

## 9. Preparation of Apparatus

### 9.1 Cleaning Glassware:

<sup>11</sup> A standard commercial apparatus has been found satisfactory for the purpose of this test method. This apparatus, including heating block, temperature control system, flow control system and glassware, is available from Falex Corp., 1020 Airpark Dr., Sugar Grove, IL 60554. Glassware for the universal oxidation test apparatus is also available from W. A. Sales, Ltd., 419 Harvester Court, Wheeling, IL 60090.

<sup>12</sup> Whatman 1 grade, available in 57 by 46 cm sheets, have been found satisfactory for this test method. Paper sheets should be stored without folding, rolling or bending, in a tightly closed container.



FIG. 2 Test Cell, Including Oxidation Cell, Gas Inlet Tube, Basic Head, and Finished Catalyst Coil