



Standard Test Method for Determination of High Temperature Deposits by Thermo- Oxidation Engine Oil Simulation Test¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 6335; 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 the procedure to determine the amount of deposits formed by automotive engine oils utilizing the thermo-oxidation engine oil simulation test (TEOST²).³ An interlaboratory study⁴ has determined it to be applicable over the range from 10 to 65 mg total deposits.

NOTE 1—Operational experience with the test method has shown the test method to be applicable to engine oils having deposits over the range from 2 to 180 mg total deposits.

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the 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.*

2. Terminology

2.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

2.1.1 *ceramic isolator*—the fitting that compresses the o-ring into the depositor rod casing and isolates the depositor rod casing from the voltage applied to the depositor rod.

2.1.2 *depositor rod*—the steel rod on which the deposits are collected. It is resistively heated through a temperature cycle during the test.

2.1.3 *depositor rod casing*—the sleeve that surrounds the depositor rod and allows the flow of specimen around the outside of the rod.

2.1.4 *drain tube*—the tube connecting the outlet of the depositor rod casing to the reaction chamber.

2.1.5 *end cap*—the fitting to tighten the ceramic isolators down onto the o-rings at the ends of the depositor rod casing.

2.1.6 *filter deposits*—the mass in mg of the deposits collected on the filter cartridge.

2.1.7 *pump*—the gear pump that controls the flow rate of sample through the depositor rod casing.

2.1.8 *pump inlet tube*—the tube connecting the reactor chamber to the pump.

2.1.9 *pump outlet tube*—the tube connecting the pump to the depositor rod casing.

2.1.10 *reactor chamber*—the reservoir that contains the bulk of the sample throughout the test. It has a drain valve for removing sample at the end of the test and an inlet valve for adding gases to the sample. The chamber contains a magnetic stir bar well in the bottom in which a stir bar is placed to mix the reactor contents.

2.1.11 *rod deposits*—the mass in mg of the deposits collected on the depositor rod.

2.1.12 *rod o-rings*—the o-rings that seal the outside of the rod and the depositor rod casing to prevent sample leaks.

2.1.13 *side nut*—the fitting creates a seal to prevent sample leaking from the front holes of the depositor rod casing.

2.1.14 *thermocouple lock collar*—a fitting that tightens on the thermocouple to ensure the thermocouple is at the correct depth when placed inside the rod.

2.1.15 *total deposits*—the rod deposits plus the filter deposits.

3. Summary of Test Method

3.1 A sample of the engine oil at a temperature of 100°C that contains ferric naphenate and is in contact with nitrous oxide and moist air is pumped at a set flow rate past a tared depositor rod. The rod is resistively heated through twelve, 9.5 min temperature cycles that go from 200 to 480°C. When the twelve cycle program is complete, the depositor rod rinsed of oil residue and dried and the gross rod mass obtained. The sample is flushed from the system and filtered through a tared filter. The mass of deposits on the rod plus the mass of deposits on the filter is the total deposit mass.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 The test method is designed to predict the high temperature deposit forming tendencies of an engine oil. This test method can be used to screen oil samples or as a quality assurance tool.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.09 on Oxidation.

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² TEOST is a trademark of the Tannas Co. (Reg. 2001396).

³ The Development of Thermo-Oxidation Engine Oil Simulation Test (TEOST), Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE No. 932837), 400 Commonwealth Dr., Warrendale, PA 15096-0001.

⁴ Supporting data have been filed at ASTM International Headquarters and may be obtained by requesting Research Report RR: D02-1391.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard.

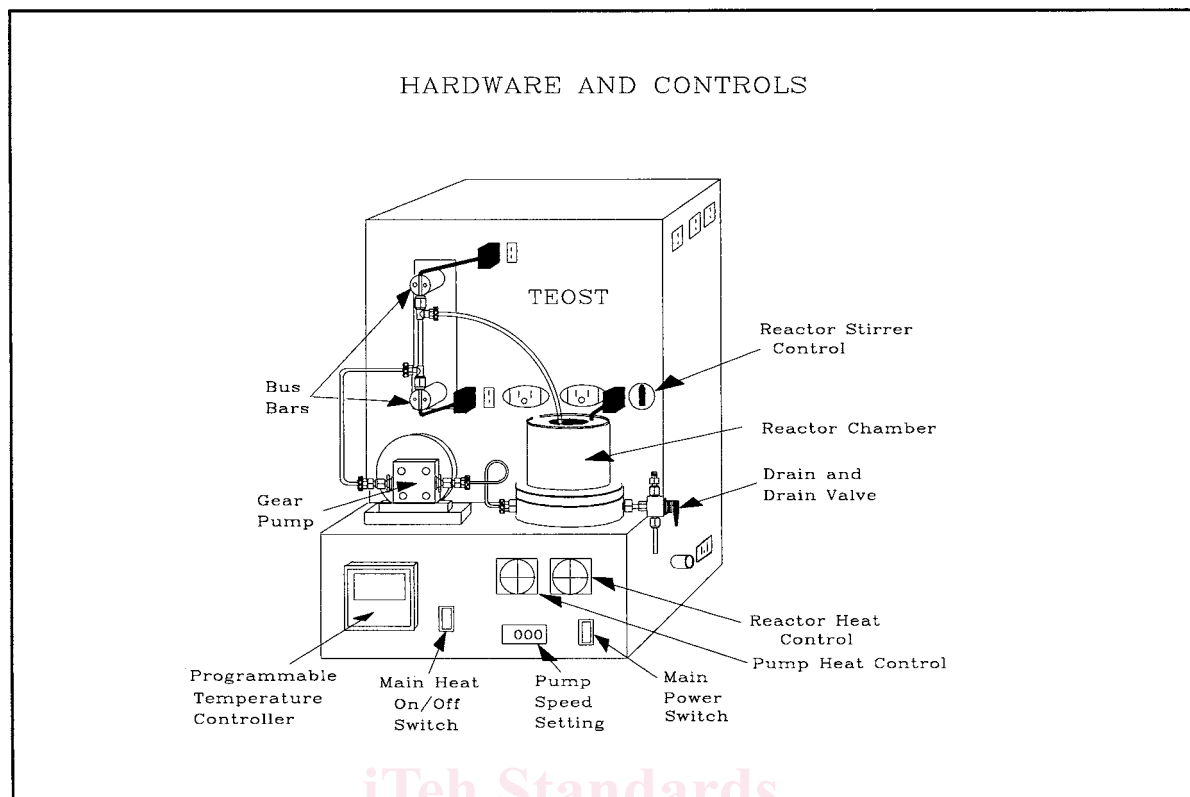


FIG. 1 Thermo-oxidation Engine Oil Simulation Test (TEOST)

5. Apparatus

5.1 Thermo-oxidation engine oil simulation test (TEOST) test instrument.⁵

5.2 *Balance*, capable of weighing to the nearest 0.1 mg.

5.3 *Vacuum Source*, hand held, floor model, or house vacuum.

5.4 Magnetic stirrer and stir bars.

5.5 Digital timer.

5.6 Petroleum and temperature resistant o-rings.

5.7 Ceramic isolators.

5.8 Polypropylene filters.

5.9 Plastic filter holder.

5.10 *Plastic Petri Dishes*, for filter storage.

5.11 *Filtering Flask*—1000 mL.

5.12 *Graduated Filter Funnel*—500 mL with Luer lock fitting.

5.13 *Graduated Cylinder*—150 mL.

5.14 *Beakers*—One 25 mL. One 600 mL.

5.15 *Graduated Cylinder*—10 mL.

5.16 *Erlenmeyer Flask*—50 mL.

5.17 Adjustable hex wrench.

5.18 *Pipe Cleaners*—3 × 304.8 mm (12 in.).

5.19 *Steel Wool*—4/0 (ultra fine).

5.20 *Brass Brush*—0.22 caliber.

5.21 *Glass Syringe*—100 μ L.

5.22 Tannas one piece cartridge filters. (*Optional*—Items 5.8, 5.9, and 5.10 are not needed if the optional Tannas one-piece cartridge filters is used.)⁵

5.23 *Flow Meters*, capable of measuring 0 to 10 mL of air per min.

5.24 *Weighing Boat*, light, circular or oblong open container, preferably made of aluminum with a diameter or length of approximately 7 to 10 cm and notched in two diametrically opposed places to prevent the rod from rolling. (See Fig. 2.)

6. Reagents and Materials

6.1 *Nitrous Oxide* (N_2O)—USP compressed gas cylinder, medical grade.

6.2 *Moist Air*—Hydrocarbon-free air regulated to 103.4 kPa (15 psig) before the flow meter and then bubbled through 30 mL of water in a 50 mL Erlenmeyer flask.

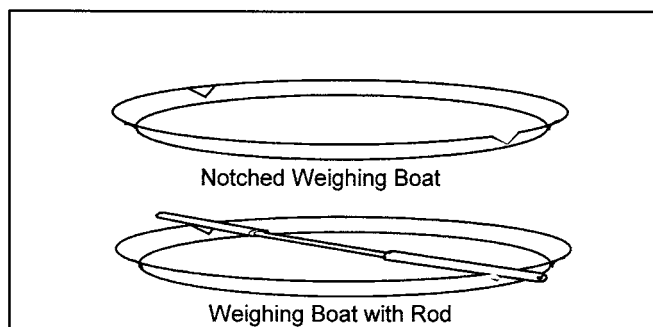


FIG. 2 Weighing Boat and Rod

⁵ The sole source of supply of the apparatus known to the committee at this time is Tannas Co., 4800 James Savage Rd., Midland, MI 48642. If you are aware of alternative suppliers, please provide this information to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee¹, which you may attend.

6.3 *Ferric Naphthenate*—Six percent iron content in mineral spirits.

6.4 *Cyclohexane or Heptane*—Industrial grade.

6.5 *Low Deposit Reference Oil*—CG-1 reference oil⁵ is a petroleum oil capable of generating total deposits in the 20 to 30 mg range. The acceptable deposit range of a specific lot is provided by the supplier of that lot.

6.6 *Intermediate Deposit Reference Oil*—CF-1 reference oil⁵ is a petroleum oil capable of generating total deposits in the 50 to 60 mg range. The acceptable deposit range of a specific lot is provided by the supplier of that lot.

6.7 *Pump Calibration Fluid*—TPC.⁵

7. Calibration

7.1 The TEOST instrument is calibrated by performing the procedure found in Section 8-16 for both a low and a high deposit reference oil. The results shall be within the repeatability limits established by the supplier of the reference oils.

7.2 The calibration should be performed a minimum of every three months, as recommended by the instrument manufacturer.

7.3 If the repeatability is not within the established limits, the instrument setup steps in Section 8 should be performed. Then the reference oil should be rerun.

8. Setup of the Test Instrument

8.1 *Pump Speed Calibration*—The pump speed should be calibrated using the instructions found in Annex A1. It is recommended that this calibration be done every three months.

8.2 *Thermocouple Depth*—The thermocouple depth setting (distance from tip to locking collar) should be determined using the procedure in Annex A2. The depth setting should be checked daily and should be redetermined whenever a new thermocouple is installed.

8.3 *Power Adjustments*—The procedure for making power adjustments is given in Annex A3. It is recommended that the power adjustments be made by a qualified instrument technician.

8.4 Verify that the temperature program shown in Table 1 is entered. When verifying the temperature program, always press RETURN when *assured soak* is displayed.

9. Assembly of Apparatus

9.1 Assemble the TEOST system by placing the reaction chamber in the bolt seats on the TEOST platform with the drain and gas inlet tubing facing the right side of the instrument.

TABLE 1 Temperature Program

Program Mode	Value
Set point 0	200°C
Time 1	1.15 min
Set point 1	200°C
Time 2	1.00 min
Set point 2	480°C
Time 3	2.00 min
Set point 3	480°C
Time 4	4.00 min
Set point 4	200°C
Time 5	1.15 min
Set point 5	200°C
Time 6	0 min
Cycles	12.00

9.2 Connect the pump inlet tube to the outlet connection of the reaction chamber and the inlet connection of the pump. Finger tighten the connections.

9.3 Connect the pump outlet tube to the outlet connection of the pump, and place a 10 mL graduated cylinder directly under the open end of the pump outlet tube.

9.4 Place the lid containing the thermocouple on the reaction chamber, making sure that the thermocouple is touching the bottom of the reaction chamber.

9.5 Wrap the heating jacket around the reaction chamber and secure it with the provided straps. Connect the heating jacket and the thermocouple to the labeled connections on the back wall of the instrument. The connectors shall be inserted and twisted to obtain a proper connection. Use the reactor temperature controller to set the temperature of the reaction chamber to 100°C.

9.6 Connect the gas tubing to the reaction chamber, and set the flow meters for the moist air and N₂O to 3.5 mL/min. These are allowed to flow to purge out the lines before the test begins.

NOTE 2—Be sure the valve on the reaction chamber is pointing up to allow the gases to enter into the chamber.

10. Sample Preparation

10.1 After thoroughly mixing the test sample, use a graduated cylinder to measure 116 mL of the fluid and pour it into a 600-mL beaker. Use a syringe to add 193 µL of the 6 % ferric naphthenate solution to the 116 mL of test fluid. The resulting concentration of iron in the test fluid will be about 100 wt ppm.

10.2 Use a magnetic bar and stirrer to mix the oil and ferric naphthenate for at least 5 min but not more than 15 min. Make certain that a vortex is not created.

10.3 After the stirring is completed, inspect the oil solution by holding it up to a light to make sure it is homogenous. If not, stir for 5 min more.

11. Procedure

11.1 When the reaction chamber is 100 ± 5°C, pour the test sample into the reaction chamber. Using the speed dial on the

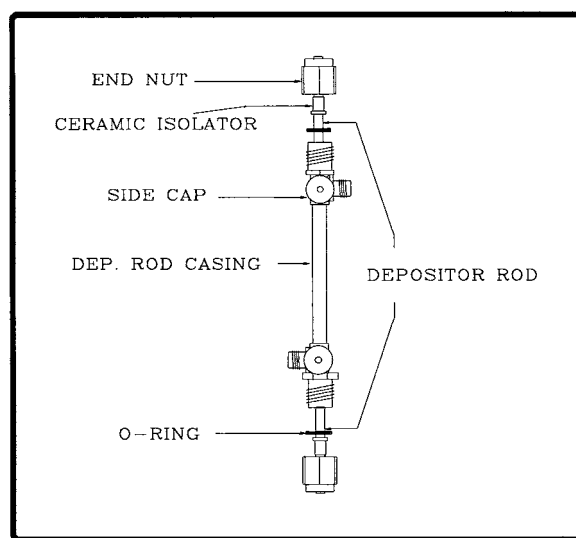


FIG. 3 Diagram of Depositor Rod Assembly

right side of the instrument, set the stir bar speed to 50. The sample temperature should reach 100°C in approximately 15 min.

11.2 Set the pump speed to 999, using the dial on the front panel of the instrument. Allow the pump to flush out 10 mL of fluid into the 10 mL graduated cylinder placed at the open end of the pump outlet tube. When flushing is complete, set the pump dial to 000 to stop the pump. Discard the 10 mL of oil.

11.3 Use cyclohexane to rinse off an unused rod, both on the outside and down the center. Clean each of the three sections of the rod with 4/0 steel wool by stroking (up and down action) each section 20 times while turning the rod. Rinse the rod with acetone inside and out. Using a pipe cleaner soaked in acetone, clean the interior of the rod. Repeat the interior cleaning with a clean pipe cleaner through the rod in the opposite direction. Dry the rod with a vacuum while holding the rod between the thumb and index finger. Handle the rod as little as possible to avoid adding mass from oils on the skin and be sure not to set the rod down until after a mass is taken. Take extra care not to touch the center area of the rod where the deposits are formed. Weight the rod to 0.1 mg and record as the initial mass.

NOTE 3—Heptane may be substituted for cyclohexane throughout the test. The use of heptane will require longer drying times.

11.4 Slide the pre-weighed rod into the clean depositor rod casing with an even amount of the rod protruding from either end. Slide a new petroleum and temperature resistant o-ring over each end of the rod, and slide them up to the depositor rod casing. Place the ceramic isolators over each end of the rod with the thin portion pointing toward the end of the rod. Place the nuts on the end, and start to secure them, but do not tighten. Align the rod in the depositor rod casing until the shoulder between the deposit area and the bus bar connection areas of the rod can be seen through the inlet or outlet connections of the depositor rod casing. When this is achieved, the securing nuts may be tightened with a wrench.

11.5 Place the depositor rod casing/test rod assembly vertically in the bus bars, and slide the overtemp thermocouple in the bottom of the rod at the same time. Slide this in as far as it will go without bending it (be sure the rod has not shifted within the depositor rod casing). Make certain that the larger connection on the depositor rod casing is at the top. Connect the top end by placing the rod into the indentation of the bus bar and swinging the cap over the rod. Insert the hex screw to begin the securing process. The top of the rod should be approximately 2 mm above the top of the circular bus bar cap. Tighten all four hex screws. The gap in the bus bar should be the same on both sides of the depositor rod for the top and bottom bus bars. A solid contact between the rod and the bus bars is all that is required.

NOTE 4—Do not overtighten.

11.6 The open end of the pump outlet tube can now be connected to the input connection of the depositor rod casing. The drain tube may now also be connected to the outlet connection of the depositor rod casing and finger tightened. Use a wrench to tighten the end caps on the two open fronts of the depositor rod casing. The unit assembly should now be complete.

11.7 Set the pump dial to 999 once again to complete the fluid flow through the entire system. When the system is completely filled with test fluid and the oil is flowing out of the drain tube back into the reactor, set the pump dial to the setting determined from the pump speed calibration to give a flow rate of 0.49 mL/min (0.40 g/min flow rate with TPC pump calibration fluid).

11.8 Place the depositor rod thermocouple down the center of the test rod. A caliper may be used to ensure proper depth of the thermocouple as determined by the thermocouple depth calibration. Be careful to prevent bends in the thermocouple, which may slightly change its depth within the rod.

11.9 Turn on the main heat switch on the front panel of the instrument to start the test, and press the START/STOP button on the controller.

12. Test Completion

12.1 The instrument will indicate that the test is finished when *MAN* (for manual) flashes on the control display. Test time is 1 h, 54 min. When the test is complete, turn off the main heat switch, set the pump dial to 000, turn off the reaction chamber heater control, and remove the reaction chamber heating jacket. (**Warning**—The reactor and the reactor heating jacket are hot.)

12.2 Place a 25 mL beaker beneath the connection between the depositor rod casing inlet and pump outlet, and remove the pump outlet connection, making sure to catch any oil that drips out.

12.3 Carefully remove the depositor rod casing drain tube and rinse it with cyclohexane into a 600 mL beaker.

12.4 Loosen the hex screws on the bus bars. One hex screw will need to be removed on the top bus bar and the others loosened to get the depositor rod casing out of the bus bars.

12.5 Place the depositor rod casing in the 600-mL beaker. Remove residual oil and loose deposits by squirting cyclohexane into the casing containing the rod.

12.6 Remove the securing nuts, ceramic isolators and o-rings from the assembly. This should be done gently so that the deposits on the rod are not disturbed.

12.7 Carefully remove the depositor rod from the casing by pulling it straight out so that the deposits remain intact on the rod. Return the depositor rod casing to the 600 mL beaker.

12.8 Hold the end of the rod with the thumb and index finger over the beaker. Rinse the inside and outside of the rod with cyclohexane, and allow the rinsed material to drain into the beaker.

12.9 Fill three test tubes or similar containers with cyclohexane and let the rod soak sequentially in each test tube for approximately 10 min.

12.10 Remove the rod from the last test tube and rinse one last time with cyclohexane.

12.11 Pour the contents of all three test tubes into the collection beaker. Rinse the test tubes out thoroughly with cyclohexane, and drain the contents into the collection beaker.

12.12 After rinsing the rod, use a vacuum source to completely dry the inside of the rod.

NOTE 5—Do not use a dry air source to dry the rod.