



Designation: D7437 – 08

Standard Test Method for Temperature and Hard Water Stability of Engine Coolants¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers a simple glassware-type procedure for evaluating the effects of temperature and hard water on the stability of engine coolants at elevated temperatures under controlled laboratory conditions.

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

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. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

D1193 Specification for Reagent Water

D1176 Practice for Sampling and Preparing Aqueous Solutions of Engine Coolants or Antirusts for Testing Purposes

E288 Specification for Laboratory Glass Volumetric Flasks

2.2 *British Standards:*³

BS 5117-1.5:1992 Coolant Hard Water Stability Test

BSI BS ISO 5725-2 Accuracy (Trueness and Precision) of Measurement Methods and Results—Part 2: Basic Method for the Determination of Repeatability and Reproducibility of a Standard Measurement Method

3. Summary of Test Method

3.1 A sample engine coolant concentrate is kept at 60°C in a controlled oven for 14 days and then cooled to room temperature and inspected. Synthetic hard water is then added and the test solution is returned to an oven set at 90°C for 14

days. At the end of this period, the test engine coolant solution is removed, cooled, and inspected. The cooled sample is centrifuged and any precipitate treated with methanol. The volume of any precipitate left after the methanol wash is decanted is recorded.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 4.1 This test method provides information on the stability of the engine coolant concentrate when stored at elevated temperatures for two weeks. These test conditions might simulate the conditions that a product would be subjected to in transit and storage in warehouses before delivery to the customer.

4.2 This test method provides information on the stability of an engine coolant diluted with synthetic hard water at elevated temperatures. This test method provides a laboratory method to test the sensitivity of the engine coolant to hard water.

5. Apparatus

5.1 *Graduated Cylinder*—of capacity 50 ± 0.50 mL.

5.2 *Graduated Conical Centrifuge Tubes*, of capacity 100 mL with stoppers.

5.3 *Forced Ventilation Oven*, capable of being maintained at temperatures of $60 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ and $90 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$.

5.4 *Centrifuge*—capable of generating a relative centrifugal force of 900.

$$\text{Relative centrifugal force} = (v/1335)^2 d \quad (1)$$

where:

v = rotational velocity (r/min) and,

d = diameter (mm) between the ends of the centrifuge tubes at the point of maximum swing.

5.5 *Pipette*, of capacity 20 ± 0.50 mL.

5.6 *Volumetric Balance*, one-mark, 1000 mL (compliant with Specification E288, Class B requirements).

6. Reagents and Materials

6.1 *Purity of Reagents*—Reagent grade chemicals shall be used in all tests. Unless otherwise indicated, it is intended that all reagents conform to the specification of the Committee on Analytical Reagents of the American Chemical Society where

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D15 on Engine Coolants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D15.06 on Glassware Performance Tests.

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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 Orders for all British Standards Institution (BSI) International and foreign standards publications should be addressed to Customer Services, telephone: 020-8996 9001 and fax: 020 8996 7001.