

Notes from 11/11/2010 Sequence VG Surveillance Panel Call

Attendees:

Andrew Ritchie, Gordon Farnsworth, Mike McMillan – Infineum
Jo Martinez, Mark Sutherland – Chevron
Ron Romano – Ford
Raham Kirkwood, Bill Buscher, Sid Clark – SwRI
Al Lopez – Intertek
Dave Glaenger, Ed Altman, Bob Campbell, Todd Dvorak – Afton
Rich Grundza – TMC
Jerry Brys, Alison Rajakumar – Lubrizol
Jim Carter, Wayne Petersen – Halterman
Bruce Matthews – GM
Timothy Caudill – Ashland
Timothy Miranda, Irwin Goldblatt – Castrol
Jason Bowden, Adam Bowden, Mathew Bowden – OHT
Zack Bishop, Clayton Knight - TEI


- 1) Motion to approve the notes from November 4, 2010 meeting as issued was made by Ron Romano and seconded by Mark Sutherland. Passed.
- 2) Andy Ritchie reminded the group that Ford was requesting VG parts input regarding the need for additional supplies of pistons, rings, heads, blocks to provide testing through 2015. All laboratories are to provide their needs to Ron by November 26 so he can pursue viability of additional supply.
- 3) Wayne Petersen updated the group on the remaining supplies of VG fuel batch XC2721NX10. Three Iso containers were put in storage prior to preparing tank #62 for a new fuel blend. Each container holds about 5,000 gallons. Fuel orders have been received from SwRI and Intertek that will deplete two of these containers. Andy Ritchie asked the group if anyone had objection to Halterman filling these orders. There were no objections voiced so Halterman was instructed to fill the orders. One Iso container of fuel remains in storage and Halterman agreed to review any future fuel purchase orders with the VG panel for guidance before distributing any of this remaining fuel.
- 4) Wayne Petersen discussed the status of the new VG fuel batch YJ0621NX10. Approximately 340,000 gallons has been blended and the chemical analysis indicates the fuel to be the same as the previous batch (XC2721NX10). The group agreed that the new blend appears to be chemically comparable to the previous batch and accepted Halterman's recommendation that the fuel is ready for reference oil testing evaluation to confirm performance.



DHA New Blend
VG.xls



Industry-Data-Analy
sis-11-08-10 (4).csv

5) Andy Ritchie noted that Afton had circulated a reference test data analysis prior to the meeting and asked Dave Glaenzer if he would like to summarize the work. Todd Dvorak conducted the analysis on the 36 valid reference oil tests with fuel batch XC2721NX10. He stated that the conclusion from this analysis is that there are severity differences among the laboratories. Based on this conclusion, Afton would like to have the new fuel batch approval testing conducted in the four major VG laboratories as they believe this will give a truer estimate of fuel performance and calculation of any fuel severity adjustment. Lubrizol also indicated  that they would like to see all labs included in the fuel certification matrix.

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6) Jo Martinez reviewed her action item from the 11/4/2010 meeting to analyze the data from the previous fuel batch approval matrix and determine what level of variation between labs is acceptable. She proposed that the next fuel matrix be designed with 2 labs / 4 stands / 3 oils to maximize the ability to distinguish fuel performance.



New Fuel Batch
Matrix (May 2009).ppt

7) The inputs from statisticians Dvorak and Martinez were debated at length with no clear testing plan agreed for the next fuel batch. Halterman noted that reference approval test cost will be absorbed into the fuel pricing. A 12 test matrix will add ~\$2.50/gal to the fuel pricing, a 16 test matrix would add ~\$3.75/gal, and a 24 test matrix would add ~\$5.00/gal. Andy stated he felt that the group consensus seemed to be that a 12 test matrix was preferred based on these cost inputs. After further discussion of several test matrix design approaches, it was agreed that the statisticians would study the following four proposals to determine the pros and cons of each one. Andy requested the analysis be circulated to all members before the close of the day on November 15.

- 1) 12 tests – 2 labs / 2 stands each / 3 oils (3 tests per stand)
- 2) 12 tests – 4 labs / 1 stand each / 2 oils (3 tests per stand)
- 3) 16 tests – 4 labs / 2 stands each / 2 oils (2 tests per stand)
- 4) 16 tests – 4 labs / 1 stand each / 2 oils (4 tests per stand)

Action items

1) Halterman to determine when fuel will be at SwRI and Intertek since these two labs will be in the matrix as a minimum.

- 2) SwRI and Intertek to determine when fuel references can be completed if three runs or four stands per stand is decided upon.
- 3) Lubrizol and Afton to determine when they could complete fuel references if requested to run 3 runs per stand or 4 runs per stand.

Next Call

The next call is scheduled for 2 pm EST on Tuesday November 16. Chairman Ritchie wants the group to be prepared to finalize the fuel approval matrix design during this call.