

Minutes from 3/8/2011 Sequence VG Surveillance Panel Conference Call

Attendees:

Andrew Ritchie, Gordon Farnsworth, Mike McMillan, Doyle Boese – Infineum

Jo Martinez, Mark Sutherland – Chevron

Tom Wingfield – ChevronPhillips

Ron Romano – Ford

Raham Kirkwood, Bill Buscher – SwRI

Al Lopez – Intertek

Ed Altman, Dave Glaenzer, Todd Dvorak – Afton

Rich Grundza – TMC

Jerry Brys, George Szappanos – Lubrizol

Mark Overaker, Jim Carter – Haltermann

Timothy Caudill – Ashland

Irwin Goldblatt – BP Castrol

Jason Bowden, Dwight Bowden, Mathew Bowden – OHT

Zack Bishop, Clayton Knight – TEI

- 1) The minutes from the March 1, 2011 conference call were approved without any additions or corrections. Motion made by Jason Bowden and seconded by Ron Romano.
- 2) Chairman Ritchie commented that this would likely be a relatively brief call, but that the Panel should plan on lengthier calls for the next several weeks as the VG Precision Task Force completes its work, and as Haltermann focuses on what fuel blends they recommend for testing.

- 3) Mark Overaker from Haltermann thanked the members of the Statistical Group [Doyle Boese, Jo Martinez, Alison Rajakumar, Todd Dvorak, and Janet Buckingham] for their input. Haltermann has narrowed the field of possible candidates they have been evaluating in analytical and bench testing to two possible blends. They anticipate beginning to put the blends together by end of this week or sometime next week. They are adhering very closely to the latest timeline which was included in the minutes of the February 22, 2011 conference call. Haltermann is targeting to have 800 gallons of the most promising fuel blend to each of the test laboratories somewhere between March 21 and 28. Haltermann plans to blend about 4800 gallons total of each of the two best candidates (enough for 6 VG tests on each fluid). The plan is to start with the fuel blend that they believe holds the best possibility for increasing sludge severity, and depending on the results obtained, the second candidate fluid may be tested subsequently.
- 4) George Szappanos reported for the VG Precision Task Force that the Task Force was currently visiting the third test laboratory (Afton) with one more to go later this week (Lubrizol). George indicated that the Task Force is focusing on one item which has been identified, but that he prefers to wait until the lab visits are completed before making a full report to the Panel on the findings of the Task Force.
- 5) Chairman Ritchie reminded the Panel members that the next two conference calls on March 15 and March 22 will be critical in deciding the course of action to be taken by the Panel. At those calls, the report from the VG Precision Task Force on their findings will be made, as well as the report on the guidance provided to Haltermann by the Statistical Group. It is also expected that Haltermann will provide the rationale for why the fuel(s) to be tested were chosen. Ron Romano asked whether we were going to run the VG tests the same way we did in the just-completed fuel matrix, or whether we were going to incorporate some or all of the recommendations from the VG Precision Task Force laboratory visits. George Szappanos answered that we should wait to consider this question until the report from the laboratory visits is made available.
- 6) The next VG SP conference call is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, at 2:00 pm EST.