

Minutes from 4/12/2011 Sequence VG Surveillance Panel Conference Call

Attendees:

Andrew Ritchie, Gordon Farnsworth, Mike McMillan – Infineum

Mark Sutherland, Jo Martinez – Chevron

Ron Romano – Ford

Jim Linden – Toyota

Bruce Matthews - GM

Rahm Kirkwood, Bill Buscher – SwRI

Al Lopez – Intertek

Dave Glaenzer – Afton

Jerry Brys, George Szappanos – Lubrizol

Mark Overaker, Wayne Petersen – Haltermann

Jason Bowden, Adam Bowden, Mathew Bowden – OHT

- 1) The minutes from the April 5, 2011 conference call were approved with no additions or corrections. Motion made by Jason Bowden and seconded by Dave Glaenzer.
- 2) Chairman Ritchie summarized the agenda for today's meeting. The main items to be discussed are the following:
  - a. Status of 4 VG tests on Oil 925-3
  - b. API letter on Provisional Licensing for ILSAC and API Service Categories due to unavailability of the Sequence VG test
  - c. Planning VG call schedule for the review of Oil 925-3 results
- 3) Chairman Ritchie asked each of the labs to provide the status of their testing on the revised fuel blend. All of the laboratories indicated they would complete the 216 hours of testing by this Friday or Saturday, and all

ratings should be available either over the weekend or by next Monday afternoon. Jo Martinez indicated that if the statisticians receive all the data by Monday afternoon, they should be able to analyze the data and have a report ready for the Panel by next Wednesday afternoon or Thursday. Ron Romano suggested that we ask the labs to send their data out to all VG Panel members, and that we keep next Tuesday's conference call for a preliminary discussion of the results. Chairman Ritchie indicated that he was willing to convene a call next Tuesday, but that he would also like to plan for a call next Thursday to review the Statistical Group's analysis of the data. The other Panel members agreed.

- 4) Chairman Ritchie reported that API has issued a letter indicating that API has learned that ASTM D6593, the Sequence VG engine test, is commercially unavailable for the next 120 days due to the lack of a test fuel necessary to run the engine test. The Sequence VG is required to qualify engine oils for licensing against the API SN, SM, SL and SJ and ILSAC GF-5 standards. In response to the Sequence VG test being unavailable, API's Engine Oil Licensing and Certification System has invoked Provisional Licensing in accordance with paragraph 3.7.9 of API 1509. API Provisional Licensing only applies to oil marketers that need to run ASTM D6593, Sequence VG, to qualify a new product or formulation as API SJ, SL, SM, SN and/or ILSAC GF-5.
- 5) Chairman Ritchie indicated the VG Panel should still be planning for a meeting in Detroit sometime in the future, but he would like to defer discussion of the specifics of this until after the results from the current round of testing become available.
- 6) Bill Buscher asked for clarification as to what data will be sent and to whom after the engines are rated at the end of the current round of testing. After some discussion, it was decided that all data should be sent to all Panel members, but Panel members should try to refrain from drawing conclusions from the data until the statisticians report is made available.
- 7) The next conference call will be Tuesday, April 19, at 2:00 pm EST for a preliminary discussion of the results of the four VG tests currently being run. A Conference call for Thursday, April 21, at 2:00 pm EST is also planned to discuss the analysis of the results by the Statistical Group.