

Unapproved Minutes of the November 27, 2012  
Sequence VG Surveillance Panel  
Conference Call

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Andy Ritchie at 2:00 PM EST.

A list of the attendees on the call is included as Attachment 1.

Chairman Ritchie asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the November 13, 2012 VG Panel conference call. There being none, it was moved by Jason Bowden and seconded by Ed Altman that the minutes be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Ritchie listed the agenda items he had included in the two notices for this call:

- 1) Review and approval of minutes from November 13, 2012 call
- 2) Review of semi-annual Sequence VG report to Subcommittee D02.B0 distributed in advance of today's call
- 3) Status of new VG fuel batch preparation
- 4) Plan for extending use of VG test to July 2016
- 5) Old Business.
- 6) New business.

Chairman Ritchie asked if there were any comments or questions on the semi-annual report on Sequence VG activities which he will send to Bill Buscher to integrate into the report for all surveillance panel activities. Jason Bowden asked if we should include an estimate of VG hardware availability in response to ILSAC's request to delay introduction of GF-6 until the second half of 2016. After much discussion, it was agreed that we should wait until the task force formed during the last VG conference call to assess this has completed its work. However, if the question does come up at next week's ASTM meetings, the four labs present at this meeting (SwRI, Intertek, Lubrizol and Afton) all agreed it was likely they would be able to procure the necessary parts to continue to run VG tests until July 2016, provided engine block cores and pistons continue to be available.

Chairman Ritchie asked Mark Overaker to provide an update on the status of plans for developing a new fuel batch. Mark indicated that blending of the

new fuel batch is beginning this week, and that the plan outlined in detail in the presentation he made during the November 13 conference call was still on schedule. If things remain on this schedule, this would put the start of matrix testing in early January with completion targeted for early February 2013. For the approval matrix, Chairman Ritchie proposed that any VG-calibrated laboratory should be given the opportunity to participate in the approval matrix, if they so desire. He proposed that labs should indicate their intention to participate by Dec 31. Ron Romano asked whether we needed this information before Dec 31. In the discussion which followed, SwRI indicated they plan to make two stands available in their lab; Intertek will make one stand available, but they are not sure about a second stand; Afton will participate, but they are not sure how many tests they will make available; Lubrizol is not planning to participate at this time. At the conclusion of this discussion, Chairman Ritchie asked that all labs respond to Rich Grundza by the end of this week, indicating how many stands they would like included and how many tests they would be willing to run. This will allow Rich to put this information together by Tuesday, December 4, and allow the Statistical Group to develop a proposed matrix for discussion at the next VG conference call, currently scheduled for Tuesday, December 11. Current plans call for three reference oils (1009, 1006-2, and 940) to be included in the approval matrix.

Old Business : No items of old business were brought up.

New Business: Ed Altman raised the question whether, with the uncertainty surrounding the introduction of a new reference oil 940 with a minimal number of tests used to establish its targets, as well as the introduction of a new fuel batch, perhaps the Surveillance Panel should consider suspending severity adjustments during matrix testing. Considerable discussion followed, with Rich Grundza and others expressing concerns about doing this. No formal proposal or action was taken, and it was agreed that this topic should be tabled until the next VG call, when others will have had more time to think about the idea and possible consequences.

Next Meeting: The next regularly scheduled conference call will be Tuesday, December 11, at 2:00 PM ET.

## **Attachment 1**

### **Attendees during 11/27/2012 Sequence VG Surveillance Panel Call**

Afton – Ed Altman

Ford - Ron Romano

GM –Bruce Mathews

Haltermann – Mark Overaker

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

Intertek – Al Lopez

Lubrizol – Jerome Brys, Chris Mileti, Jessica Buchanan, Chris Castanien

OHT – Dwight Bowden, Jason Bowden, Matthew Bowden

Oronite– Jo Martinez

SwRI – Bill Buscher, Raham Kirkwood

TEI – Clayton Knight

TMC – Rich Grundza