MEMORANDUM: 04-034

DATE: April 22, 2004

TO: Sequence VIII Surveillance Panel

FROM: Michael T. Kasimirsky Wilhael J. Rosimirsky

SUBJECT: Sequence VIII Reference Oil 1006-2 Target Error

On September 1, 2003, a new set of test targets for reference oil 1006-2 went into effect in Sequence VIII testing. Unfortunately, when the new targets were entered into the TMC software application used for generating the industry control charts, one value was entered incorrectly and this error was not identified at that time. The BWL standard deviation was listed as 4.59, rather than the correct value of 2.59. Since September 1, 2003, eight reference oil tests were conducted on that oil and reviewed against the erroneous targets.

On April 20, 2004, a laboratory identified the target problem and brought it to the attention of the TMC. After confirming the error, the target was corrected and all reference oil tests run since September 1, 2003, were reexamined. That examination revealed no reversals of test acceptance and no significant changes to the Severity Adjustments calculated during that time period. The only SA changes that were found were on tests that completed on April 15th and 19th, 2004. The Severity Adjustments applied to candidate oil tests as a result of those reference oil tests were revised, based upon the correct test targets, and reissued to the laboratory for application to the candidate tests affected by them.

The TMC is re-confirming its internal verification procedures for test target data entry in order to prevent this type of error in the future. If there are any questions regarding this matter please contact me at 412-365-1033.

MTK/mtk

c: ftp://ftp.astmtmc.cmu.edu/docs/gas/sequenceviii/memos/mem04-034.pdf

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