

ASTM Section D02.B0.03

Status Report to Subcommittee B

December 6, 2006

ASTM Section D02.B0.03

- Items to Review
 - Membership Changes
 - Scope and Objectives
 - Performance Categories
 - Update on Test Procedures
 - Task Force Activity
 - Action Items

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- Membership
 - Jerry Gropp replaced Bill Sullivan as Chairman, effective September 6, 2006

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- Scope
 - This Section is responsible for the promotion of knowledge of, and specifications, test methods and terminology for automotive gear lubricants and fluids. This includes gear lubricants used in rear drive axles, power dividers, and fluids used in manual and automatic transmissions of wheeled or track laying vehicles such as passenger cars, recreation vehicles, taxicabs, trailers, trucks, buses, tractors, construction and farm vehicles.

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- Objectives
 - Keep existing performance tests operational, at historic severity and precision levels.
 - Ensure that performance test parts and reference oils are available in adequate supply and of a consistent quality.
 - Develop and maintain performance tests for gear lubricant and transmission fluid categories.
 - Maintain surveillance of test procedures under Section jurisdiction.
 - Work to improve test precision and correlation with field service.
 - Maintain active liaison with related organizations, CEC, SAE.

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- Performance Categories
 - Tests under the jurisdiction of the Section are used to evaluate lubricants under the following performance categories:
 - API Category GL-5
 - Lubricants for automotive axles
 - ASTM D 5760
 - Lubricants for non-synchronized manual transmissions in buses and heavy-duty trucks
 - Also known as API Category MT-1
 - SAE J2360
 - Multipurpose gear-lubricating oils
 - Technical equivalent of the MIL-PRF-2105E Specification
 - » Canceled on February 16, 2005
 - Proposed Category PM-2
 - Lubricants for synchronized manual transmissions in commercial vehicles
 - Currently under development

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- Test Procedures
 - All tests under the jurisdiction of the Section are available for use
 - A slight severity trend (severe) has been identified in three tests
 - L-33-1, L-60-1, and Cyclic Durability tests
 - ASTM Test Monitoring Center working with Surveillance Panels and test laboratories to address
 - Not of sufficient magnitude to inhibit use of tests
 - Shortage of hardware is a concern for two tests
 - Pilot batch of L-42 hardware evaluated and deemed acceptable
Production of remainder of batch is in progress.
 - Production of a new batch of lubrited L-37 hardware is also underway
 - Anticipate both new batches of hardware will be available for evaluation in late 2006 or early 2007

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- Task Force Activity
 - Rating Task Force
 - Recently implemented use of two new rating aids in the L-33-1 test
 - Active in efforts to improve rating aids in all tests
 - Updating photos in the L-37 test, evaluating use of “molds” for Wear and Ridging in the L-37 test, etc.
 - Evaluating if a need exists to refine definitions of scoring and polishing in the L-42 test
 - API Category GL-5 Task Force
 - Completed the update and rewrite of API Category GL-5 in ASTM format
 - Document ready for ballot
 - PM-2 Task Force
 - Will solicit input from the industry to identify potential reference oils needed to evaluate proposed test procedures and establish pass/fail criteria

API Category GL-5 Task Force Update

- API Category GL-5 has been written in the form of an ASTM Standard
- New document will address several issues
 - Old document described performance based upon the use of outdated tests - New document references current tests
 - Certain pass/fail requirements in old document somewhat vague by today's standards – New document addresses this issue
 - New document more specific in terms of identifying tests required on each viscosity grade of lubricant – Eliminates confusion and ambiguity
 - No process in place to keep old document current – ASTM Standard will be routinely updated
- Document ready for ballot within ASTM

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- Action Items
 - Motion: That Subcommittee B approve the recommendation from Section D02.B0.03 that the rewrite of API Category GL-5 as an ASTM Standard be moved forward for balloting
 - Requesting review by an ASTM facilitator prior to balloting
 - Motion: That Subcommittee B accept the status report from Section D02.B0.03 as written