



Standard Test Method for Condition Monitoring of Phosphate Antiwear Additives in In-Service Petroleum and Hydrocarbon Based Lubricants by Trend Analysis Using Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) Spectrometry¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 7412; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers monitoring phosphate antiwear additives in in-service petroleum and hydrocarbon based lubricants such as various types of engine oils, hydraulic oils, and other lubricants that are formulated for protection against wear. Typical phosphate antiwear additives include zinc dialkyl-dithiophosphates, trialkyl phosphates and triaryl phosphates.

1.2 This test method uses Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) spectrometry for monitoring of phosphate antiwear additive depletion in in-service petroleum and hydrocarbon based lubricants as a result of normal machinery operation. Monitoring the depletion of phosphate antiwear additives in in-service lubricants can indicate unusual wear or severe operating conditions of the machine. This test method is designed as a fast, simple spectroscopic check for monitoring of phosphate antiwear additives in in-service petroleum and hydrocarbon based lubricants with the objective of helping diagnose the operational condition of the machine based on measuring the level of phosphate antiwear additives in the oil.

1.3 Acquisition of FT-IR spectral data for measuring phosphate antiwear additives in in-service oil and lubricant samples is described in Practice D 7418. In this test method, measurement and data interpretation parameters for phosphate antiwear additives using both direct trend analysis and differential (spectral subtraction) trend analysis are presented.

1.4 This test method is based on trending of spectral changes associated with phosphate antiwear additives in in-service petroleum and hydrocarbon based lubricants. Warnings or alarm limits can be set on the basis of a fixed minimum value for a single measurement or, alternatively, can be based on a rate of change of the response measured, see Ref (1).²

1.4.1 For direct trend analysis, values are recorded directly from absorption spectra and reported in units of absorbance per 0.1 mm pathlength.

1.4.2 For differential trend analysis, values are recorded from the differential spectra (spectrum obtained by subtraction of the absorption spectrum of the reference oil from that of the in-service oil) and reported in units of 100*absorbance per 0.1 mm pathlength (or equivalently absorbance units per centimeter).

1.4.3 In either case, maintenance action limits should be determined through statistical analysis, history of the same or similar equipment, round robin tests or other methods in conjunction with the correlation of changes in the level of phosphate antiwear additives to equipment performance.

NOTE 1—It is not the intent of this test method to establish or recommend normal, cautionary, warning or alert limits for any machinery. Such limits should be established in conjunction with advice and guidance from the machinery manufacturer and maintenance group.

1.5 This test method is for petroleum and hydrocarbon based lubricants and is not applicable for ester based oils, including polyol esters or phosphate esters.

1.6 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.6.1 *Exception*—The unit for wave numbers is cm^{-1} .

1.7 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:³

D 445 Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids (and Calculation of Dynamic Viscosity)

D 2896 Test Method for Base Number of Petroleum Products by Potentiometric Perchloric Acid Titration

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.96 on In-Service Lubricant Testing and Condition Monitoring Services.

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² The boldface numbers in parentheses refer to a list of references at the end of this standard.

³ For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

D 5185 Test Method for Determination of Additive Elements, Wear Metals, and Contaminants in Used Lubricating Oils and Determination of Selected Elements in Base Oils by Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometry (ICP-AES)

D 6304 Test Method for Determination of Water in Petroleum Products, Lubricating Oils, and Additives by Coulometric Karl Fischer Titration

D 7414 Test Method for Condition Monitoring of Oxidation in In-Service Petroleum and Hydrocarbon Based Lubricants by Trend Analysis Using Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) Spectrometry

D 7415 Test Method for Condition Monitoring of Sulfate By-Products in In-Service Petroleum and Hydrocarbon Based Lubricants by Trend Analysis Using Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) Spectrometry

D 7418 Practice for Set-Up and Operation of Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) Spectrometers for In-Service Oil Condition Monitoring

E 131 Terminology Relating to Molecular Spectroscopy

E 2412 Practice for Condition Monitoring of Used Lubricants by Trend Analysis Using Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) Spectrometry

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions of terms relating to infrared spectroscopy used in this test method, refer to Terminology **E 131**. For definition of terms related to in-service oil condition monitoring, refer to Practice **D 7418**.

3.2 *machinery health, n*—qualitative expression of the operational status of a machine subcomponent, component, or entire machine, used to communicate maintenance and operational recommendations or requirements in order to continue operation, schedule maintenance, or take immediate maintenance action.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 This test method uses FT-IR spectrometry to monitor levels of phosphate antiwear additives in in-service petroleum and hydrocarbon based lubricants. The FT-IR spectra of in-service oil samples are collected according to the protocol for either direct trend analysis or differential trend analysis described in Practice **D 7418**, and the levels of phosphate antiwear additives are measured using the peak height or area measurements described herein.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 Antiwear additives are commonly used in petroleum and hydrocarbon based lubricants to prevent machinery wear by forming a chemical barrier activated by frictional heat. Antiwear additives that are phosphate based can be measured by FT-IR spectroscopy using the phosphate absorption band. Initially, phosphate antiwear additives will decompose and form a protective film by binding to metal surfaces and through oxidative mechanisms, and so a decrease in the level of phosphate antiwear additive relative to that in the new oil is expected during normal machinery operation. Subsequently, significant depletion of phosphate antiwear additives due to

oxidation or hydrolysis can occur when the lubricant is subjected to high temperatures and high levels of moisture. This usually occurs prior to the point where the oxidation of the lubricant begins to accelerate—making trending of phosphate antiwear additives a useful indicator of the lubricant’s remaining in-service life. Monitoring of phosphate antiwear additive depletion is therefore an important parameter in determining overall machinery health and should be considered in conjunction with data from other tests such as atomic emission (AE) and atomic absorption (AA) spectroscopy for wear metal analysis (Test Method **D 5185**), physical property tests (Test Methods **D 445**, **D 2896**, and **D 6304**) and other FT-IR oil analysis methods for oxidation (Test Method **D 7414**), sulfate by-products (Test Method **D 7415**), nitration, breakdown products and external contaminants (Practice **E 2412**), which also assess elements of the oil’s condition, see Refs (1-6).

6. Interferences

6.1 High levels of glycol and ester based additives, or contaminants, or both, can interfere with the measurement of phosphate antiwear additives.

7. Apparatus

7.1 Fourier transform infrared spectrometer equipped with sample cell, filter (optional) and pumping system (optional) as specified in Practice **D 7418**.

7.2 *FT-IR Spectral Acquisition Parameters*—Set FT-IR spectral acquisition parameters according to instructions in Practice **D 7418**.

8. Sampling

8.1 Obtain a sample of the in-service oil and a sample of the reference oil (required only for differential trend analysis) according to the protocol described in Practice **D 7418**.

9. Preparation and Maintenance of Apparatus

9.1 Rinse, flush, and clean the sample cell, lines and inlet filter according to instructions in Practice **D 7418**.

9.2 Monitor cell pathlength as specified in Practice **D 7418**.

10. Procedure

10.1 Collect a background spectrum according to the procedure specified in Practice **D 7418**.

10.2 *Differential Trend Analysis Only*—Collect the absorption spectrum of a reference oil sample according to the procedure specified in Practice **D 7418**.

10.3 Collect the absorption spectrum of an in-service oil sample according to the procedure specified in Practice **D 7418**.

10.4 *Data Processing*—All data are normalized to a pathlength of 0.100 mm according to the procedure specified in Practice **D 7418**.

11. Calculation

11.1 *Calculation of Phosphate Antiwear Value:*

11.1.1 *Procedure A (Direct Trend Analysis)*—Phosphate antiwear value by the direct trending method is calculated from the oil sample spectrum using the measurement area and baseline points listed in **Table 1**. **Fig. 1** illustrates the area used