



Designation: D7414 – 22

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

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1. Scope*

1.1 This test method covers monitoring oxidation in in-service petroleum and hydrocarbon based lubricants such as in diesel crankcase, motor, hydraulic, gear and compressor oils, as well as other types of lubricants that are prone to oxidation.

1.2 This test method uses Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) spectrometry for monitoring build-up of oxidation products in in-service petroleum and hydrocarbon based lubricants as a result of normal machinery operation. Petroleum and hydrocarbon based lubricants react with oxygen in the air to form a number of different chemical species, including aldehydes, ketones, esters, and carboxylic acids. This test method is designed as a fast, simple spectroscopic check for monitoring of oxidation 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 oxidation in the oil.

1.3 Acquisition of FT-IR spectral data for measuring oxidation in in-service oil and lubricant samples is described in Practice D7418. In this test method, measurement and data interpretation parameters for oxidation 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 oxidation of 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 This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products, Liquid Fuels, and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.96.03 on FTIR Testing Practices and Techniques Related to In-Service Lubricants.

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

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 centimetre).

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 oxidation changes 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 phosphoate 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, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.8 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:³

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.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard

- [D445 Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids \(and Calculation of Dynamic Viscosity\)](#)
- [D664 Test Method for Acid Number of Petroleum Products by Potentiometric Titration](#)
- [D974 Test Method for Acid and Base Number by Color-Indicator Titration](#)
- [D2896 Test Method for Base Number of Petroleum Products by Potentiometric Perchloric Acid Titration](#)
- [D4175 Terminology Relating to Petroleum Products, Liquid Fuels, and Lubricants](#)
- [D4739 Test Method for Base Number Determination by Potentiometric Hydrochloric Acid Titration](#)
- [D5185 Test Method for Multielement Determination of Used and Unused Lubricating Oils and Base Oils by Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometry \(ICP-AES\)](#)
- [D7412 Test Method for Condition Monitoring of Phosphate Antiwear Additives in In-Service Petroleum and Hydrocarbon Based Lubricants by Trend Analysis Using Fourier Transform Infrared \(FT-IR\) Spectrometry](#)
- [D7415 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](#)
- [D7418 Practice for Set-Up and Operation of Fourier Transform Infrared \(FT-IR\) Spectrometers for In-Service Oil Condition Monitoring](#)
- [D7624 Test Method for Condition Monitoring of Nitration in In-Service Petroleum and Hydrocarbon-Based Lubricants by Trend Analysis Using Fourier Transform Infrared \(FT-IR\) Spectrometry](#)
- [E131 Terminology Relating to Molecular Spectroscopy](#)
- [E177 Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods](#)
- [E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions of terms relating to infrared spectroscopy used in this test method, refer to Terminology [E131](#). For definitions of terms related to in-service oil condition monitoring, refer to Practice [D7418](#) and Terminology [D4175](#).

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 oxidation levels 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 [D7418](#), and the levels of oxidation are measured using the peak height or area measurements described herein.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 A large number of compounds, such as aldehydes, ketones, esters, and carboxylic acids, are produced when oils react with atmospheric oxygen. Oxidation is measured using a common FT-IR spectral feature between 1800 cm^{-1} and 1670 cm^{-1} caused by the absorption of the carbonyl group present in most oxidation compounds. These oxidation products may lead to increased viscosity (causing oil thickening problems), acidity (causing acidic corrosion), and formation of sludge and varnish (leading to filter plugging, fouling of critical oil clearances and valve friction). Monitoring of oxidation products 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 [D5185](#)) and physical property tests (Test Methods [D445](#)), base reserve (Test Method [D2896](#) and [D4739](#)), acid number tests (Test Methods [D664](#) and [D974](#)) and other FT-IR oil analysis methods for nitration (Test Method [D7624](#)), sulfate by-products (Test Method [D7415](#)), and additive depletion (Test Method [D7412](#)), which also assess elements of the oil's condition, see Refs ([1-6](#)).

6. Interferences

6.1 Refer to Practice [D7418](#) for a list of common interferents affecting the quality of all FTIR generated spectra.

6.2 When the sample has increased baseline (soot >2.5 %) or interferent peak present, follow the optional procedure in Practice [D7418](#) Section 11 depending on measurement accuracy needs.

7. Apparatus

7.1 Fourier transform infrared spectrometer equipped with sample cell, filter (optional) and pumping system (optional) as specified in Practice [D7418](#).

7.2 *FT-IR Spectral Acquisition Parameters*—Set FT-IR spectral acquisition parameters according to instructions in Practice [D7418](#).

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 [D7418](#).

9. Preparation and Maintenance of Apparatus

9.1 Rinse, flush, and clean the sample cell, inlet lines, and inlet filter according to instructions in Practice [D7418](#).

9.2 Monitor cell pathlength as specified in Practice [D7418](#).

10. Procedure

10.1 Collect a background spectrum according to the procedure specified in Section 9 of Practice [D7418](#).

10.2 *Differential Trend Analysis Only*—Collect the absorption spectrum of a reference oil sample according to the procedure specified in Section 9 of Practice [D7418](#).