



Standard Specification for Phosphate Ester Based Fluids for Turbine Lubrication and Steam Turbine Electro-Hydraulic Control (EHC) Applications¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D4293; 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 specification covers the minimum requirements for phosphate ester based fluids for turbine lubricants and electro-hydraulic control fluids, as delivered.

1.2 The use of this type of fluid is restricted to turbine systems that have been designed or modified to accommodate phosphate ester fluids.

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

1.4 *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:²

- D92 Test Method for Flash and Fire Points by Cleveland Open Cup Tester
- D97 Test Method for Pour Point of Petroleum Products
- D130 Test Method for Corrosiveness to Copper from Petroleum Products by Copper Strip Test
- 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
- D892 Test Method for Foaming Characteristics of Lubricating Oils

- D974 Test Method for Acid and Base Number by Color-Indicator Titration
 - D1169 Test Method for Specific Resistance (Resistivity) of Electrical Insulating Liquids
 - D1298 Test Method for Density, Relative Density, or API Gravity of Crude Petroleum and Liquid Petroleum Products by Hydrometer Method
 - D1401 Test Method for Water Separability of Petroleum Oils and Synthetic Fluids
 - D2422 Classification of Industrial Fluid Lubricants by Viscosity System
 - D3427 Test Method for Air Release Properties of Petroleum Oils
 - D4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products
 - D6304 Test Method for Determination of Water in Petroleum Products, Lubricating Oils, and Additives by Coulometric Karl Fischer Titration
 - D7546 Test Method for Determination of Moisture in New and In-Service Lubricating Oils and Additives by Relative Humidity Sensor
- ### 2.2 EN Standards:³
- EN 14832 Petroleum and Related Products—Determination of the Oxidation Stability and Corrosivity of Fire-resistant Phosphate Ester Fluids
 - EN 14833 Petroleum and Related Products—Determination of the Hydraulic Stability of Fire Resistant Phosphate Ester Fluids
- ### 2.3 IEC Standard:⁴
- IEC 60247 Insulating Liquids—Measurement of Relative Permittivity, Dielectric Dissipation Factor (tan δ) and d.c. Resistivity

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products, Liquid Fuels, and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.C0.01 on Turbine Oil Monitoring, Problems and Systems.

Current edition approved June 1, 2015. Published July 2015. Originally approved in 1983. Last previous edition approved in 2008 as D4293 – 83(2008). DOI: 10.1520/D4293-15.

² 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.

³ Available from British Standards Institution (BSI), 389 Chiswick High Rd., London W4 4AL, U.K., <http://www.bsigroup.com> or from Deutsches Institut für Normung e.V.(DIN), Am DIN-Platz, Burggrafenstrasse 6, 10787 Berlin, Germany, <http://www.din.de>.

⁴ Available from International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), 3, rue de Varembe, P.O. Box 131, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, <http://www.iec.ch>.

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

2.4 Energy Institute Standard:⁵

IP 510 Energy Institute Standard—Petroleum Products—Determination of Organic Halogen Content—Oxidative Microcoulometric Method

2.5 ISO Standards:⁶

ISO 760 Determination of Water—Karl Fischer Method (General Method)

ISO 2160 Petroleum Products—Corrosiveness to Copper—Copper Strip Test

ISO 2592 Determination of Flash and Fire Points—Cleveland Open Cup Method

ISO 3016 Petroleum Products—Determination of Pour Point

ISO 3104 Petroleum Products—Transparent and Opaque Liquids—Determination of Kinematic Viscosity and Calculation of Dynamic Viscosity

ISO 3170 Petroleum Liquids—Manual Sampling

ISO 3448 Industrial Liquid Lubricants—ISO Viscosity Classification

ISO 3675 Crude Petroleum and Liquid Petroleum Products—Laboratory Determination of Density—Hydrometer Method

ISO 4259 Petroleum Products—Determination and Application of Precision Data in Relation to Methods of Test

ISO 4406 Hydraulic Fluid Power—Fluids—Method for Coding the Level of Contamination by Solid Particles

ISO 6072 Rubber—Compatibility Between Hydraulic Fluids and Standard Elastomeric Materials

ISO 6247 Petroleum Products—Determination of Foaming Characteristics of Lubricating Oils

ISO 6614 Petroleum Products—Determination of Water Separability of Petroleum Oils and Synthetic Fluids

ISO 6618 Petroleum Products and Lubricants—Determination of Acid or Base Number—Colour Indicator Titration Method

ISO 6619 Petroleum Products and Lubricants—Neutralization Number—Potentiometric Titration Method

ISO 7537 Petroleum Products—Determination of Acid Number—Semi-micro Colour-indicator Titration Method

ISO 8068 Lubricants, Industrial Oils and Related Products (Class L)—Family T (Turbines)—Specification for Lubricating Oils for Turbines

ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems

ISO 9120 Petroleum Products—Determination of Air-release Properties of Steam Turbine and Other Oils—Impinger Method

ISO 10050 Lubricants, Industrial Oils and Related Products (Class L)—Family T (Turbines)—Specifications of Triaryl Phosphate Ester Turbine Control Fluids (Category ISO-L-TCD)

ISO 11500 Hydraulic Fluid Power—Determination of the Particulate Contamination Level of a Liquid Sample by Automatic Particle Counting Using the Light-extinction Principle

ISO 12185 Crude Petroleum and Petroleum Products—Determination of Density—Oscillating U-tube Method

ISO 14935 Petroleum Products—Determination of Wick Flame Persistence of Fire-resistant Fluids

ISO 15597 Petroleum Products—Determination of Chlorine and Bromine Content—Wavelength X-ray Fluorescence Spectrometry

ISO 20764 Petroleum and Related Products—Preparation of a Test Portion of High-boiling Liquids for the Determination of Water Content—Nitrogen Purge Method

ISO 20823 Petroleum and Related Products—Determination of the Flammability Characteristics of Fluids in Contact with Hot Surfaces—Manifold Ignition Test

3. Significance and Use

3.1 This is a specification to define the minimum requirements of fire-resistant fluids for satisfactory performance in turbine applications. Fire-resistant fluids are more difficult to ignite and show little tendency to propagate a flame. The term “fire-resistant fluid” does not mean that the fluid will not burn if enough energy is supplied.

4. Safety Precautions

4.1 The fire safety tests are used to measure and describe the properties of phosphate esters in response to heat and flame under controlled laboratory conditions and should not be considered or used for the description or appraisal of the fire hazard of the fluids under actual fire conditions.

4.2 Fires that have occurred in operating turbines have usually been caused by fluid or vapors contacting hot surfaces. For example, fluid that may spill and be absorbed into unprotected thermal insulation can experience an exothermic reaction with resultant, potential, rapid temperature increase. The ignition of the absorbed fluid can occur at temperatures below the fluid auto-ignition temperature.

5. Sampling

5.1 Sampling shall be in accordance with the applicable clauses of Practice **D4057** or ISO 3170. Drum shipments shall be represented by an “all-levels sample” obtained by tube sampling.

5.2 Clean, dry, and free sampling apparatus from any substance that might contaminate the fluid during the sampling process.

5.3 Care shall be taken to ensure that the fluid is mixed properly before samples are withdrawn for the test and that the samples are representative of the whole.

5.4 The fluid shall normally meet the specification requirements at the point where it passes from the supplier to the user unless other contractual arrangements have been made.

6. Functional Property Requirements

6.1 Phosphate ester fluids used in turbine applications shall not contain any viscosity-index improver.

6.2 Most of the test methods specified in the tables contain a precision statement. In cases of dispute, the procedure described in ISO 4259 shall be used.

⁵ Available from Energy Institute, 61 New Cavendish St., London, W1G 7AR, U.K., <http://www.energyinst.org>.

⁶ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.