

Bulk Engine Oil Chain of Custody and Quality Documentation

API 1525A

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FOREWORD

API 1525A *Bulk Engine Oil Chain of Custody and Quality Documentation* provides procedures for managing bulk engine oil chain of custody to ensure oil quality from the point of manufacture to installation in the end user's engine. All parties involved with supplying finished bulk engine oil to consumers have a role in protecting the quality of the oil throughout the supply chain. Responsibility for quality starts with the Bulk Engine Oil Provider (BEOP) and ends with the installer. The blender, the transporter/distributor and the installer that originally ordered the product have a role in ensuring the quality of the engine oil received matches the quality ordered.

Since publication of the First Edition in 2012, API's EOLCS group has worked cooperatively with the National Conference on Weights and Measures (NCWM) to establish labeling criteria for bulk engine oils.

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Bulk Engine Oil Chain of Custody and Quality Documentation

1. Scope

This document provides procedures for managing bulk engine oil chain of custody to ensure oil quality from the point of manufacture to installation in the end user's engine. The procedures specifically address the following key topics: Bulk Engine Oil Provider (BEOP) practices; the ordering of oils meeting API 1509; chain-of-custody documentation that identifies bulk engine oil throughout the supply system; and requirements for informing consumers about the types of engine oil available for installation and requirements for notification (written and/or electronic) and labelling of the oil installed in mobile equipment engines.

All parties involved with supplying bulk engine oil to consumers (end users) have a role in protecting the quality of the oil throughout the supply chain. Responsibility for quality starts with the BEOP and ends with the installer. The BEOP, the distributor and the installer that originally ordered the product all have a role in ensuring the quality of the engine oil received matches the quality ordered. Additionally, the installer should make best efforts to assist the end user in selecting products meeting the vehicle's performance needs.

This document builds on procedures published in API Recommended Practice 1525, *Bulk Oil Testing, Handling, and Storage Guidelines*. API 1525 addresses storage and handling of bulk oil, facility and equipment standards, loading and unloading, comingling in distributor storage, multiple transporters between BEOP and oil-change facilities, personal safety equipment, training, and governmental requirements and reviews.

Applicability of all or part of the guidelines should be determined on a case-by-case basis.

2. Normative References

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

API 1509¹, *Engine Oil Licensing and Certification System*

API Recommended Practice 1525, *Bulk Oil Testing, Handling, and Storage Guidelines*

API Engine Oil Licensing and Certification System (EOLCS) Online System User Guide

ASTM D445², *Standard Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids (and Calculation of Dynamic Viscosity)*

ASTM D1500, *Standard Test Method for ASTM Color of Petroleum Products (ASTM Color Scale)*

ASTM D4052, *Standard Test Method for Density, Relative Density, and API Gravity of Liquids by Digital Density Meter*

ASTM D4927, *Standard Test Methods for Elemental Analysis of Lubricant and Additive Components—Barium, Calcium, Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Zinc by Wavelength-Dispersive X-Ray Fluorescence Spectroscopy*

ASTM D4951, *Standard Test Method for Determination of Additive Elements in Lubricating Oils by Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometry*

ASTM D5185, *Standard Test Method for Multielement Determination of Used and Unused Lubricating Oils and Base Oils by Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometry (ICP-AES)*

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