



Designation: D 5846 – 02

An American National Standard

Standard Test Method for Universal Oxidation Test for Hydraulic and Turbine Oils Using the Universal Oxidation Test Apparatus¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 5846; 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 a procedure for evaluating the oxidation stability of petroleum base hydraulic oils and oils for steam and gas turbines.

1.2 This test method was developed to evaluate the oxidation stability of petroleum base hydraulic oils and oils for steam and gas turbines.

1.2.1 Rust and oxidation inhibited hydraulic, anti-wear hydraulic and turbine oils of ISO 32–68 viscosity were used to develop the precision statement. This test method has been used to evaluate the oxidation stability of fluids made with synthetic basestock and in-service oils; however, these fluids have not been used in cooperative testing to develop precision data.

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

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.* Identified hazardous chemicals are listed in 7.3, 7.6, and 7.8. Before using this test method, refer to suppliers' safety labels, Material Safety Data Sheets, and other technical literature.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

- A 510 Specification for General Requirements for Wire Rods and Coarse Round Wire, Carbon Steel²
- B 1 Specification for Hard-Drawn Copper Wire³
- D 664 Test Method for Acid Number of Petroleum Products by Potentiometric Titration⁴
- D 943 Test Method for Oxidation Characteristics of Inhibited Mineral Oils⁴

D 974 Test Method for Acid and Base Number by Color-Indicator Titration⁴

D 3339 Test Method for Acid Number of Petroleum Products by Semi-Micro Color Indicator Titration⁵

D 4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products⁵

D 4740 Test Method for Stability and Compatibility of Residual Fuels by Spot Test⁵

D 4871 Guide for Universal Oxidation/Thermal Stability Test Apparatus⁵

D 5770 Test Method for Semi-Quantitative Micro Determination of Acid Number of Used Lubricating Oils⁶

2.2 *Institute of Petroleum Standard:*⁷

IP 2546 Practice for Sampling of Petroleum Products; alternate to Practice D 4057

2.3 *British Standard:*⁸

BS 1829 Specification for Carbon Steel Wire; alternate to Specification A 510

2.4 *ASTM Adjuncts:*

Reference Spot Sheet (Test Method D 4740), for visual rating of blotter spots⁹

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.1.1 *oxidation life, n*—of an oil, the time in hours required for degradation of the oil under test.

3.1.2 *inhibited mineral oil, n*—a petroleum oil containing additives to retard oxidation.

3.1.3 *universal oxidation test, n*—the apparatus and procedures described in Guide D 4871.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 An oil sample is contacted with air at 135°C in the presence of copper and iron metals. The acid number and spot forming tendency of the oil are measured daily. The test is terminated when the oxidation life of the oil has been reached.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.09.0D on Oxidation of Lubricants.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 01.03.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 02.03.

⁴ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 05.01.

⁵ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 05.02.

⁶ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 05.03.

⁷ Available from the Institute of Petroleum, 61 New Cavendish St., London, W1G 7AR, U.K.

⁸ Available from British Standards Institute, 389 Chiswick High Rd., London, W4 4AL, U.K.

⁹ Available from ASTM International Headquarters. Order ADJD 4740.

4.2 The oil is considered to be degraded when either its acid number (measured by Test Methods [D 974](#) or [D 664](#)) has increased by 0.5 mg KOH/g over that of new oil; or when the oil begins to form insoluble solids so that when a drop of oil is placed onto a filter paper it shows a clearly defined dark spot surrounded by a ring of clear oil.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 Degradation of hydraulic fluids and turbine oils, because of oxidation or thermal breakdown, can result in the formation of acids or insoluble solids and render the oil unfit for further use.

5.2 This test method can be used to estimate the relative oxidation stability of petroleum-base oils. It should be recognized that correlation between results of this test and the oxidation stability in use can vary markedly with service conditions and with various oils.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Heating Block*, as shown on the right in [Fig. 1](#), and as

further described in Guide [D 4871](#), to provide a controlled constant temperature for conducting the test.

6.1.1 Test cells are maintained at a constant elevated temperature by means of a heated aluminum block which surrounds each test cell.

6.1.2 The test cells shall fit into the block to a depth of 225 ± 5 mm. When centered, the side clearance of the 38 mm outside diameter glass tube to the holes in the aluminum block shall not exceed 1 mm in any direction.

6.2 *Temperature Control System*, as shown at lower left in [Fig. 1](#), and as further described in Guide [D 4871](#), to maintain the test oils in the heating block at $135 \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ for the duration of the test.

6.3 *Gas Flow Control System*, as shown in the upper left in [Fig. 1](#), and as further described in Guide [D 4871](#), to provide dry air at a flow rate of 3.0 ± 0.5 L/h to each test cell.

6.3.1 A gas flow controller is required for each test cell.

6.3.2 Flowmeters shall have a scale length sufficiently long to permit accurate reading and control to within 5 % of full scale.



FIG. 1 Apparatus, Showing Gas Flow Control System, Temperature Control System, and Heating Block