



Designation: D8385 – 22

Standard Test Method for Dry Filterability of Lubricants and Hydraulic Fluids by Mass Flow Technique¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers determination of the dry filterability of lubricants and hydraulic fluids based upon mass flow rate measurements through a 0.8 μm membrane after ageing (Note 1). The procedure applies to lubricants and hydraulic fluids that are formulated with American Petroleum Institute (API) Group I, II, III, IV, and certain V base stocks. Products formulated with water or base stocks that are heavier than water are out of scope.

NOTE 1—This test method is similar to ISO 13357 but differs from the ISO method in the manner by which filterability is assessed. In ISO 13357, volume flow rates are used to determine filterability. In this test method, mass flow rates are used. Measurements of filterability based on mass flow rates facilitate automation and can be less susceptible to operator error.

NOTE 2—Residual water due to atmospheric conditions or contaminants is in scope for these samples and it is typically low for most in process samples.

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

1.3 *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.*

1.4 *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:²

D1193 Specification for Reagent Water

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.N0 on Hydraulic Fluids.

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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.

D4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

D4175 Terminology Relating to Petroleum Products, Liquid Fuels, and Lubricants

D6300 Practice for Determination of Precision and Bias Data for Use in Test Methods for Petroleum Products, Liquid Fuels, and Lubricants

2.2 ISO Standards:³

ISO 13357 Petroleum products – Determination of the filterability of lubricating oils – Part 2: Procedure for dry oils

ISO 16889 Hydraulic fluid power – Filters – Multi-pass method for evaluating filtration performance of a filter element

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 For definitions of terms used in this test method, refer to Terminology D4175.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *filterability, n*—the ability of lubricants and hydraulic fluids to pass through fine filters without plugging them; it is a dimensionless number that is the ratio between two filtration rates.

3.2.2 *Stage I filterability index, n*—the ratio, expressed as a percentage, between 192 g and the mass of oil filtered in the time that 192 g would have theoretically taken, assuming no plugging of the membrane.

3.2.3 *Stage II filterability index, n*—the ratio, expressed as a percentage, between the flow rate near the start of filtration, and the flow rate between 160 g and 240 g of filtered mass.

NOTE 3—Oils having good Stage I filterability would be unlikely to cause filter performance problems in use, unless high efficiency fine filtration is employed in the equipment. Oils with good Stage II filterability would be unlikely to cause filtration problems when high efficiency fine filtration is present. High efficiency filters, within the context of this method, have a Beta Ratio greater than or equal to 75 at 5 μm as defined by ISO 16889. ($\beta_{5\mu\text{m}} \geq 75$) Thus fluids that have good Stage II filterability

³ Available from International Organization for Standardization (ISO), ISO Central Secretariat, Chemin de Blandonnet 8, CP 401, 1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland, <https://www.iso.org>.

are recommended for hydraulic and lubrication systems that have critical cleanliness requirements.

3.3 Symbols:

3.3.1 F_I —stage I filterability index, dimensionless

3.3.2 F_{II} —stage II filterability index, dimensionless

3.3.3 M —actual mass of oil filtered at T_m , g

3.3.4 T_8 —time corresponding to 8 g of oil filtered, s

3.3.5 T_{40} —time corresponding to 40 g of oil filtered, s

3.3.6 T_{160} —time corresponding to 160 g of oil filtered, s

3.3.7 T_{240} —time corresponding to 240 g of oil filtered, s

3.3.8 T_m —theoretical time for 192 g of oil to filter, s

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 In this test method the fluid is filtered under specific conditions through a membrane of 0.8 μm mean pore diameter, and the times for the specific filtrate masses are recorded. Filterability indices are calculated from ratios of the mass flow rate near the start of the test, to the flow rate at later stages. The result of the test is the average of three determined values.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 Precision equipment and high pressure hydraulic machinery require filtered lubricants and fluids to prevent damage from the circulation of hard particulate contaminants. Three types of particulate contaminants are present in lubricants and hydraulic fluids: built in contaminants from the machinery assembly process, generated contaminants from equipment wear, and contaminants that enter from external sources.

5.2 The ability of lubricants and hydraulic fluids to retain their filterability is critical for efficient and reliable machine performance. Normally, the pressure differential across a filter will increase gradually as the filter accumulates dirt, sludge, and wear debris. In order to prevent the filter from collapsing, bypass valves in the filter assembly open when the differential pressure gets too high. If a filter becomes blocked by precipitating additives or other contaminants, the bypass valve will open. This can lead to an equipment shutdown or circulation of damaging particles throughout the machine.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Beaker*, 500 mL or other size suitable for collecting the filtrate.

NOTE 4—A 300 mL graduated cylinder may also be used but overflows can occur with low density oils.

6.2 *Bottles*, 500 mL narrow mouth glass laboratory media bottles with a screw on cap. Neck inner diameter, 3 cm $\pm$ 0.2 cm, bottle width 8.7 cm $\pm$ 0.4 cm, height without cap 17.6 cm $\pm$ 0.2 cm.

NOTE 5—The shape of the bottle has been found to affect wet filterability results. The effect of the bottle shape in dry filterability is unknown.

6.3 *Filtration apparatus*, constructed of stainless steel, consisting of a lidded funnel of at least 350 mL capacity, and a funnel base with filter support, such that a membrane filter

(6.5) can be clamped between the sealing surfaces of the funnel and the base by means of a metal clamp or other suitable air-tight closure.

6.4 *Forceps*, spade ended.

6.5 *Membrane filters*, of mixed cellulose esters, diameter 47 mm and mean pore size of 0.8 μm .

NOTE 6—Membranes of an equivalent specification to Millipore filter membranes, catalogue number AAWP 047 have been found satisfactory.

6.6 *Oven*, controlled at 70 $^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 2.0$ $^{\circ}\text{C}$.

6.7 *Petri dishes*, glass type.

6.8 *Pressure gauge*, dial or digital type, capable of reading the required delivery pressures (see 11.7) ± 5 kPa.

6.9 *Top loading balance*, with dynamic measurement mode. Capable of continuously recording 0.1 g mass at 0.1 s increments.

7. Reagents and Materials

7.1 *Purity of Reagents*—Reagent grade chemicals shall be used in all tests. Unless otherwise indicated, it is intended that all reagents shall conform to the specifications of the Committee on Analytical Reagents of the American Chemical Society, where such specifications are available.⁴ Other grades may be used, provided it is first ascertained that the reagent is of sufficiently high purity to permit its use without lessening the accuracy of the determination.

7.2 *Compressed air or nitrogen*, complete with regulator system capable of supplying air or nitrogen at nominal pressures between 50 kPa and 200 kPa. The air or nitrogen shall be dry and filtered.

7.3 *Aliphatic solvent*, reagent grade heptanes or 2,2,4-trimethylpentane are suitable.

7.4 *Water*, conforming to Type 3 of Specification D1193 for Reagent Water.

8. Hazards

8.1 Safety glasses and solvent impermeable gloves must be worn during the experiments.

9. Sampling, Test Specimens, and Test Units

9.1 Unless otherwise specified, samples shall be taken by the method specified in D4057.

9.2 Equilibrate the test oils out of direct sunlight at a temperature of 15 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ to 25 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for a minimum of 24 hours.

10. Preparation of Apparatus

10.1 Rinse the apparatus with aliphatic solvent (7.3) to remove traces of oil from previous tests.

⁴ *ACS Reagent Chemicals, Specifications and Procedures for Reagents and Standard-Grade Reference Materials*, American Chemical Society, Washington, DC. For suggestions on the testing of reagents not listed by the American Chemical Society, see *Analar Standards for Laboratory Chemicals*, BDH Ltd., Poole, Dorset, U.K., and the *United States Pharmacopeia and National Formulary*, U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention, Inc. (USPC), Rockville, MD.