



Test Monitoring Center

6555 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206-4489
(412) 365-1000

MEMORANDUM: 05-079
DATE: November 2, 2005
TO: Gordon Farnsworth, Chairman, ASTM Test Monitoring Board
FROM: John L. Zalar
SUBJECT: ASTM TMC Semiannual Report

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCIAL

The ASTM Board of Directors approved the 2006 Test Monitoring Center budget and three-year financial plan on October 25, 2005. Details of the budget and three-year plan will be included in the Administrative Guidance Committee Report. There have been no changes in TMC personnel during the past six months and staffing remains at 13 full-time employees. The current TMC organizational chart is shown in Attachment A.

INFORMATION LETTERS

The following 14 information letters have been issued by the TMC since my last report.

<u>Information Letter</u>	<u>Date Issued</u>
Sequence IIIF No. 05-2	08/10/05
Sequence IVA No. 05-2	06/08/05
Sequence VG No. 05-1	06/01/05
Sequence VG No. 05-2	07/19/05
Sequence VG No. 05-3	07/26/05
Sequence VIB No. 05-1	07/19/05
Sequence VIII No. 05-1	06/23/05
L-37 No. 05-2	05/04/05
L-42 No. 05-2	04/26/05
L-42 No. 05-3	06/29/05
L-60-1 No. 05-2	04/21/05
L-60-1 No. 05-3	10/10/05
HTCT No. 05-2	05/04/05
OSCT No. 05-1	08/15/05

Thirteen of these letters are on the regular Fall Subcommittee B information letter ballot (Ballot 05-7). Sequence VG Information Letter 05-2, dealing with the approval of a new fuel batch and correction factors, was pre-balloted within Subcommittee B (Ballot 05-03) and approved on July 1, 2005. Another potentially controversial information letter, T-8 No. 05-X, is currently being pre-balloted (Ballot 05-06).

This letter proposes to change the T-8 calibration period from nine months to twelve months. This ballot will close on November 7, 2005. The results of all the information letter ballots will be reported at the December ASTM meetings.

OTHER BALLOT ITEMS

Subcommittee B Ballot 05-04 included two items: 1) a revision to the adjunct for Test Method D5704 (L-60-1) and 2) a revision to the *Regulations Governing the ASTM Test Monitoring System* that increased the term limits for Test Monitoring Board voting members. Both items were approved on August 15, 2005.

Subcommittee B Ballot 05-07 included the annual election of TMB voting members. The nominees are Abdul Cassim, Heather DeBaun, Chris Castanien, and Andrew Ritchie.

Committee D02 Ballot 05-04 included the revision to the adjunct for Test Method D5704 (L-60-1).

The results of these ballot items will be reported at the December ASTM meetings.

CRC CONTRACT

The TMC has been awarded a contract with CRC to serve as the CRC Deposit/Distress Workshop Coordinator. The contract has been signed by CRC and ASTM (Jim Thomas, President) and is for a period of one year. The scope of work includes organizing two rating workshops, one diesel and one gasoline, as well as the associated data handling and follow-up reporting. Scott Parke has been selected to serve as the workshop coordinator. Scott has been actively involved in past CRC workshops and has assisted the previous coordinator, Mike Pansza, with data collection and analysis. Scott has also organized several ASTM rating workshops. Our goal is to provide a smooth continuation of the CRC workshop program.

The first workshop organized by the TMC under this contract was the Diesel Rating Workshop held October 17 – 21 in San Antonio, Texas.

SULFATED ASH MONITORING

The TMC has been asked to monitor the sulfated ash test (D874). Preliminary discussions have been held about identifying reference oils and establishing calibration/monitoring protocols. It has been proposed that a daily QC check oil be introduced as well as quarterly calibrations using TMC blind reference oils (similar to D5800 and D6417 monitoring). The daily check oil has been identified and received by TMC. Presently, the oil is being screened to determine sulfated ash performance.

Three reference oils for blind quarterly calibrations (<0.85%, 1.00%, >1.15% sulfated ash) will be selected. Seven oils from the TMC inventory have been identified as potential reference oils and, with the suppliers' permission, are being screened for sulfated ash performance. For those oils selected, a small aliquot will be set aside for D874 monitoring.

REFERENCE OILS RECEIVED / SHIPPED

The following reference oils were received and processed by the TMC during the period from May 1, 2005 to October 31, 2005.

<u>Test Type</u>	<u>Oil Code</u>	<u>Quantity (gallons)</u>
D6078, D6079	DFA5*	55
D6078, D6079	DFB5*	55
Sequence VID	VID-FO	998
Sequence VID	VID-BL	2012
Sequence VID	VID-A	495
Sequence VID	VID-B	500
Sequence VID	VID-C	500
Sequence VID	VID-D	500
Sequence VID	VID-E	500
Sequence VID	VID-G	1029
Sequence VID	VID-H	1034
Sequence VID	VID-I	1028
Sulfated Ash	90	50
HTCT	154	220
Multiple Gear Tests	155	550
OSCT	168	55

* Lubricity reference fluids

During this same time period, the TMC made 237 shipments of reference oils containing a total of 2069 individual oil samples.

CALIBRATION TEST REPORTING

During the period from May 1, 2005 to October 31, 2005, 1636 calibration tests were reported to the TMC. Also, during this same period, 97% of all tests reported to the TMC were transmitted electronically.

JLZ/jlz/mem05-079.jlz.doc

Attachment

c: ASTM Test Monitoring Board

ftp://astmtmc.cmu.edu/docs/test_monitoring_board/TMC-12-2005.pdf

Attachment A

