LUBRICANT TEST MONITORING SYSTEM

Second Edition

Acknowledgment

The first version of the Lubricant Test Monitoring System (LTMS) was the result of efforts of the American Chemistry Council (ACC) Statistical Engine Test Work Group (SETWG) of the ACC Product Approval Protocol Task Group (PAPTG). The SETWG applied a logical and data based analytical approach to available ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) calibration test data in the development of the LTMS. This system of managing lubricant engine test severity (bias) and precision was presented to the ASTM Technical Guidance Committee of the Test Monitoring Board in October, 1991 by the ACC PAPTG. The LTMS was subsequently adopted for use by ASTM Surveillance Panels.

The enhancements and revisions in this Second Edition are the result of the work of the ASTM LTMS Task Force, and, specifically, the Statistical Subgroup of the LTMS Task Force which included statisticians and others from the engine oil industry as well as representatives of independent laboratories and the ASTM Test Monitoring Center. Changes and enhancements were incorporated to this LTMS Second Edition in 2010.

**Preface to the Second Edition**

When SETWG created LTMS, they were not confident that they had solved the problems that triggered their efforts. They had consensus that they had laid the groundwork for a comprehensive approach toward “leveling the playing field” of engine lubricant specification testing. They knew that parts of the approach were wrong but that it was worth the penalties of minor inaccuracies to achieve the broader goal of a framework for conscientious businesses to have access to equitable measurement of lubricant performance.

The ASTM testing industry adopted LTMS intending to monitor effectiveness and accuracy of the system. Surveillance Panels and Test Development Task Forces were assisted in fine tuning adjustments over the years. But, until now, there was little effort to follow up on the intention to consider revision of the basics of the system.

That the basic system still functions is an endorsement of its value and robustness. However, evolutions of engine technology, test development, business dynamics, economic factors, and laboratory strategies have consistently pushed toward fewer reference tests. Under this pressure, Surveillance Panels and Test Development Task forces made changes often deviating from original guidelines and spirit of LTMS. Traditional Statistical Process Control (SPC) approaches might not have been appropriate with the advent of LTMS but with the current lack of data, appropriateness of the techniques in LTMS has become more questionable. It is time to rejuvenate the system recognizing current paucity of data and economic realities.

This version of LTMS delivers encompassing guidelines within which Surveillance Panels can adjust parameters for individual test types. Not following guidelines should be pursued only with knowledgeable endorsement by a consensus of shareholders.

Reference tests that improve quality and equity of testing should be considered for the value they deliver. This second edition is presented in the hope that it will provide value to the industry without partiality.

In the following document, “we” refers to the authors of this document – the LTMS Task Force Statistics Subgroup.

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1. Lubricant Test Monitoring System Structure

A. GOALS

The Lubricant Test Monitoring System (LTMS) is a tool used to identify differences among industry test results. The purpose of the LTMS is to assist the industry to level the playing field for non-reference testing. No matter where or when a non-reference is tested, the goal of LTMS is to bring all results to parity. Adjustments within the system attempt to ameliorate problems when the cause cannot be identified or physically corrected.

* LTMS, although applied to reference oil tests and results, is intended to enhance our ability to measure performance of non-reference oils.
* LTMS should treat large and small labs equitably.
* LTMS should strive for standardization across test types with guidelines and criteria defined for deviations.
* LTMS should encourage on target results and improved precision.
* LTMS should systemically eliminate incentives for inappropriate engineering judgments.
* LTMS should promote reliability, integrity, and efficiency of testing.

Actions in the revision of LTMS are motivated by two desires. First, we want severity adjustment entities (a severity adjustment entity is the entity to which severity adjustments are applied – it could be a laboratory, a stand, an engine, or other identified entities) to be near enough to each other on the performance scale that we believe they are measuring the same oil characteristics. Second, we need enough data from a severity adjustment entity so that we know where it is on the performance scale relative to the rest of the industry.

B. THEORY

LTMS is not SPC. It is something more like what Box1,2 called “Statistical Control by Monitoring and Adjustment” or “Statistical Process Monitoring and Feedback Adjustment”. But LTMS isn’t quite that because we don’t have sufficient data and we are not adjusting a process, we are just applying simple adjustments similar to Bisgaard’s “Using a Time Series Model for Process Adjustment and Control” 3. Since we are doing something completely different and we don’t have enough data, we need to *keep it simple*, draw from theoretical approaches as possible, *keep it simple*, don’t make too many arbitrary rules that can be inappropriately manipulated by surveillance panels, and keep it simple.

Traditional SPC methods might not be adequate for determining LTMS parameters. There may be better approaches than estimating average run lengths even in the case of the usual assumptions (stationarity, etc). As we incorporate more realistic assumptions, evaluation of signaling power becomes very complicated.

When implementing LTMS Version 2 for existing tests, mock application to existing data can be illuminating but not definitive. LTMS Version 2 was not in place when the existing data were generated, so tests were not run as they would have been under Version 2.

C. PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Our approach to the new LTMS is suboptimal. The LTMS TF SS reached reluctant consensus that our best hope for quickly taking advantage of identified improvements is to specify a simplistic, one-size-fits-all system for application across all test types. This is the default recommended system for every test type. Compelling presentation of data is necessary to justify making changes to the system. We make suggestions of where and how specific tuning could be developed.

The LTMS revision was developed with input from all stakeholders.  This includes customers, practitioners, statisticians, etc.  Any system that is “forced” onto the Surveillance Panels will not work.

There are many items that impact test results that are out of the labs’ control. These items should not adversely affect labs or test sponsors.

Especially for test types with little reference data, we could be stuck with an adjustment for a long time. Conversely, without adjustment, we could be getting spurious results for a long time.

D. TEST DEVELOPMENT

Before a new test enters the Lubricant Test Monitoring System a precision study is designed and analyzed by industry statisticians in collaboration with a Test Design Task Force, a Surveillance Panel, or other appropriate industry body of subject matter experts. The study investigates sources of variability and provides targets and estimates of precision for reference oils. The precision study is often supplemented by tests to address potential for base oil interchange and viscosity grade read across. Additional stands or laboratories might run tests concurrently to the precision study in the hopes of attaining reference status when LTMS is defined for the test.

We need data during test development from statistically designed experiments to

* Establish precision and LTMS targets in current technology oils;
* Determine sources of variability which will help determine level of monitoring and control (lab, stand, engine); and
* Consider all important sources of variability pertinent to the test.

Guidelines for target development:

* Strive for a homogeneous dataset to set targets.
* A minimum of 10 tests per reference oil technology and 8 tests per reference oil should be used to set reference oil targets.
* Outliers should not be removed from the target dataset unless special cause can be identified. If the cause can be identified and removed from future testing, the outlier can be removed from the target dataset. If the cause can be identified and appropriate adjustment developed for all tests, then the outlier results may be adjusted.
* The target development dataset should be generated within as short a timeframe as possible.
* Targets should be developed using regression analysis considering all possible covariates (lab, stand, engine, test parts and fuel, run order, time, etc.).
* Issues involving oil by lab interactions should be resolved before final targets are set.

The industry statisticians have a fairly standard way of analyzing data from precision studies.

An analysis of the sources of variability must determine whether it is appropriate to reference stands, engines, laboratories, fuel, test part batches or any combination of sources. The severity adjustment entity is either laboratory or stand and / or hardware. Data shortage will generally bias selection toward laboratory and we make laboratory the default severity adjustment entity. The following factors could persuade us to choose stand and / or hardware instead of the default.

* An engine is reused for testing with minimal rebuild,
* An engine is always associated with the same stand,
* Data analyses find engines or stands to provide significant predictive ability for test results,
* Fundamental mechanistic understanding of the performance measure compels belief in stand or engine effects, and / or,
* Data from a previous version of the test gave accepted evidence of a stand or engine effect.

Targets for reference oils are most appropriately based on least squares or predicted marginal means. If there are significant differences among severity adjustment entities (e.g., stands), reference oil targets could be weighted averages of the least squares means for the severity adjustment entity by oil interaction with weights based on the expected number of non-reference tests within each severity adjustment entity, or could be based on an accepted “correct” subset. The standard deviation for each test pass criterion is estimated by the appropriate model.

Because of the assumptions (homoscedasticity, normality, etc.) implicit in the tools used to determine calibration and severity adjustments, the statisticians will always strive to determine whether data transformation is appropriate. A basic and now easily applied tool to investigate transformations uses the Box-Cox algorithm. Other theoretical and analytical approaches to investigate transformations will also be used. Both statistical and engineering judgment should be exercised in determining transformations. Phenomena that are primarily driven by multiplicative factors (wear, for example), usually benefit from logarithmic transformation. Measurements related to spatial area (e.g., percent coverage), usually benefit from square root transformation. The inverse transformation should only be used when it makes theoretical sense such as when the true random variable is in the denominator as in fixed distance fuel economy testing reported as miles per gallon. Cleanliness rating scales from 0 to 10 have more variability in the middle and some form of a logistic transformation should be the first choice even if we don’t have data at the extremes. Transformations need to work across the entire useful scale of measurement including both reference oil and non-reference oil test data.

E. UPDATE ANALYSES

A surveillance panel has the discretion to update reference oil standard deviations at any time. At a minimum, standard deviations for each of the reference oils should be reviewed when 10, 20, and 30 tests have been completed. Standard deviations should be subsequently reviewed periodically to estimate current variability in addition to ASTM Test Monitoring Center (TMC) semiannual reports containing variability estimates. Test results in the reference oil data set should be severity adjusted prior to calculating standard deviations. Reference oil targets generally should not change assuming that severity adjustments account for location shifts.

Since we by default neither optimize LTMS parameters nor use theoretically rigorous estimates of prediction variability and severity adjustment accuracy, these should be reviewed at the same time that reference oil standard deviations are reviewed.

F. SECOND EDITION CONTROL CHARTS

i. Reference Qualification

For the sake of brevity and simplicity, we will assume in this section that the severity adjustment entity is a laboratory. If, as described above, a compelling case for other severity adjustment entity (e.g., engine) has been accepted, details of this section are slightly modified (see Appendix F).

With the default system, the first stand within a laboratory requires three reference tests for initial non-reference testing qualification. These reference tests are run consecutively, before non-references, and may include precision study oils as well as reference oils. Calibration status is not judged until the final reference test in the consecutive string.

In order to remain qualified for non-reference testing, a test stand shall begin a reference oil test after no more than 10 test starts in the stand or no later than 18 months following the completion of the stand’s previous qualifying reference oil test, whichever comes first. In order to avoid clustering at the end of the 18 month period, a test stand will begin a reference oil test after no more than 5 test starts commencing after 9 months following the stand’s previous qualifying reference oil test. The time limits could be modified if appropriate by the Surveillance Panel. These intervals might be reduced or increased as a function of monitoring.

If two references are declared operationally invalid during the attempt to calibrate an existing stand, increases to the reference interval that would otherwise apply, will not occur in this situation.

ii. Severity adjustment entity Charting and Actions

For each severity adjustment entity, let

Xi = ith test result in original units in end of test order,

Ti = ith test result in appropriate units in end of test order,

(Ti=Xi unless a transformation is used in which case Ti=transformed(Xi))

Yi = ith standardized test result = (Ti – target) / (standard deviation),

(Target and standard deviation are as currently defined for the reference oil used in the reference test)

Zi = EWMA = λ Yi + (1- λ) Zi-1,

(By default, λ=0.2. With sufficient data and appropriate analyses, λ could be optimized by Box procedure minimizing sum of squares for prediction, , see Reference 1, pages 87-88.)

(Fast start is used, i.e., Z0=average of Y1, Y2, and Y3.)

and,

ei = prediction error from EWMA = Yi – Zi-1.

For each severity adjustment entity, chart Yi, Zi, and ei versus i. Zi is used as an adjustment chart to promote similar severity across severity adjustment entities. Shewhart charts of the ei’s indicate whether we know the relative performance of the severity adjustment entity well enough to adequately severity adjust using the Zi.

Limits for the EWMA chart for monitoring severity (Zi plotted against completion date order) might be expressed as

,

and limits for Shewhart charts of the ei’s might be expressed as

(See Appendix G).

Templates for application of version 2 LTMS as applied for stand based and lab based LTMS, are shown in Appendix F.

iii. Industry Charting and Actions

For the entire testing industry, let

Xi = ith test result in original units in end of test order,

Ti = ith test result in appropriate units in end of test order,

(Ti=Xi unless a transformation is used in which case Ti=transformed(Xi))

Yi = ith standardized test result = Yi = (Ti – target) / (standard deviation),

(Target and standard deviation are as currently defined for the reference oil used in the reference test)

and,

Zi = EWMA = λ Yi + (1- λ) Zi-1.

(By default, λ=0.2. With sufficient data and appropriate analyses, λ could be optimized by Box procedure minimizing sum of squares for prediction, , see Reference 1, pages 87-88.)

(Fast start is used, i.e., Z0=average of Y1, Y2, and Y3.)

Industry Zi charts without application of severity adjustment can indicate when a change in testing has caused the entire industry to drift. Such drift would be captured by severity adjustments. However, the industry chart might alert faster than individual testing entities. It might also indicate when the entire industry has shifted to the extent that the originally intended engine oil performance characteristics can no longer be reliably measured.

TMC will maintain industry Zi charts and include them in semiannual reports. To enhance understanding of trends, individual reference entities will be indicated on the charts through color or symbols in coded form. Further, when the following limits are exceeded in absolute value, the TMC will take actions as indicated.

Industry EWMA Constants for All Parameters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| EWMA of Standardized Test Result Zi = λ(Yi) + (1 – λ)Zi-1 | | |
| Limit Type | λ | Limit |
| Level 2 Upper Limit | 0.2 | TBD by SP Input |
| Level 2 Lower Limit | 0.2 | TBD by SP Input |
| Level 1 | 0.2 | 0.65 |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
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* Level 1 – TMC Investigate whether severity adjustments are adequately addressing the trend and investigate possible causes. Communicate as appropriate with industry.
* Level 2 – Inform the Surveillance Panel that the limit has been exceeded.

G. SURVEILLANCE PANEL GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTING LTMS VERSION 2

Surveillance panels have the ultimate responsibility and authority for test development, target creation, and implementation of LTMS. However, given the importance of LTMS to test definition, it is advisable to include industry statisticians early and throughout the test development process. LTMS implementation for a test typically includes an engagement of industry statisticians with the surveillance panel or test development task force. From analyses of precision study data and / or historical data statisticians present recommendation for most of the LTMS parameters. It is the responsibility of the surveillance panel to review and endorse or modify the proposed system parameters. Other system parameters should originate at the surveillance panel. Selection of these other parameters by the surveillance panel might be informed by data analyses but criteria for selection should primarily be determined by subject matter experts.

i. Existing Tests

Using historical data from an existing test, potential parameters can be explored. The goal is not to determine exactly where each severity adjustment entity would start but to explore in a limited way whether various parameter settings might have more accurately compensated for past situations.

Each severity adjustment entity would begin its application of Version 2 LTMS with its first reference run in the new regime. It would be the decision of the surveillance panel whether all entities would start simultaneously with a reference test depending on the current situation. For example, if new hardware were being introduced, the surveillance panel might specify that each entity run a reference with new hardware before starting another non-reference test.

ii. Lab and industry level 2 Zi limits

Level 2 limits for severity adjustment entity Zi charts are intended to identify when a severity adjustment entity is so far from target that it cannot discriminate oil performance in the same manner as when testing is on target. This choice of limits is based on subject matter expertise related to the mechanism being evaluated. For example, when using a 0 to 10 cleanliness rating scale, if the target is 5 and a severity adjustment entity is obtaining results close to 10, then the entity will not likely be able to discriminate oil performance because all oils would be producing very clean results due to the severity of the entity. These limits must be determined for each parameter in original units. Limits need not be symmetric, i.e., severe and mild limits might not be the same distance from the target in any metric. Surveillance panels should consider that two labs could be farther apart than the difference between mild and severe limits but the non-reference tests would not be severity adjusted farther than those limits. The panel should consider Zi lag in setting limits.

One form of help in making these determinations could come from plotting original unit results (xi) versus deviation from target in standardized units (yi) for reference oil(s) and theoretical pass limit oil. It would also be very helpful for additive companies to bring input from formulators to the surveillance panel.

Level 2 limits for industry Zi charts are intended to mandate alert to the industry that something in the test appears to be causing severity shift. At that point the industry must evaluate whether normal severity adjustments are adequate to the task and also investigate whether the cause of the shift can be determined. Level 1 limits for industry Zi charts trigger a TMC investigation with possible involvement by the surveillance panel. Level 2 triggers immediate involvement by the surveillance panel.

iii. Primary / secondary parameters

When multiple criteria for passing tests are included, statisticians’ preparation for engagement would include evaluation of correlation among the criteria. It is generally detrimental to include redundant measures of oil performance. For purposes of LTMS, redundant measures bias ability of the system to detect appropriate signals. While all passing criteria should have severity adjustments in the system, it might reduce the effect of redundant criteria if test parameters of lesser importance or meaning are declared secondary. Secondary parameters would not be subject to ei judgments of reference test acceptability. As part of the statisticians’ engagement, the surveillance panel should consider whether a subset of criteria should be designated as secondary parameters.

For tests with merit systems used in passing criteria, the potential impact of LTMS should also be considered. Severity adjustment might be applied to individual criteria only to determine whether the maximum is exceeded for preemptive failure and then severity adjustment applied to total merit. This might be preferable to severity adjusting each criterion and calculating merits from the severity adjusted results.

iv. Annual review

The Technical Guidance Committee (TGC) will organize annual reviews of the LTMS system in its entirety. Surveillance Panel chairmen are ex officio members of the TGC. The chairmen should prepare with their surveillance panel for these reviews.

H. REFERENCE OILS

Reference Oils are requested and selected by the ASTM Surveillance Panel and Classification Panel. Reference oils should represent the majority of oils tested and demonstrate a test continues to discriminate around the current pass limits. At least two oils that can be discriminated by the test are recommended. This is necessary as it is possible for a shift to move the test to a severity level where discrimination around the pass limit is lost due to the size of applied adjustments and/or the nature of the measurement scale.

Guidelines for reference oil selection:

* Strive for reference oils that “mimic” non-reference oil behavior.
* Reference oils should meet the chemical and physical limits of the category.
* Reference oils should meet the chemical and physical limits of the pass limit. In other words, if a pass limit is tied to a particular viscosity grade, base oil type, chemical element, or other characteristic, the reference oil should meet those chemical and physical limits.
* Reference oils do not need to pass every parameter for the test, but they should be around various pass/fail limits.
* Adding new reference oils for an existing test should be done very cautiously.
* Reference oil behavior should be similar across laboratories
  + If not, try and fix the problem
  + Consider reference oil removal
  + Try not to incorporate interaction into LTMS mean targets
* Reference oils should be blended to last the life of the test for the category.

Re-blended reference oil results should be subject to Level 1 alarms (See Appendix F) using original reference oil targets. When eight (8) references have been run on the oil, the data are examined and analyzed to determine if the mean performance of the oil has changed. A change in the mean performance of the oil is DIFFERENT from a change in the engine test reflected in the oil performance. If the oil performance has changed, then the oil re-blend may be attempted a second time, or, the oil may be assigned a different designation with new targets. If the mean performance of the oil has not changed, the targets established for the original blend of the reference oil should be used. Determination of a change in performance is made through statistical analyses considering all possible covariates.

When a new reference oil is introduced, monitoring and adjustment should not use reference results from the new oil until the test targets have been approved by the Surveillance Panel based on at least eight (8) tests.

Surveillance Panels are encouraged to accelerate data generation for new or re-blended reference oils through temporary modification of reference oil mix or flexible approaches to reference periods. They should also try to maintain inventories of heritage blends for comparison with new blends.

I. ENGINEERING JUDGMENT AS APPLIED TO THE INTERPRETATION OF LTMS CONTROL CHARTS

The Lubricant Test Monitoring System (LTMS) by design, will infrequently produce false indications of the severity and/or precision of a test result. These false indications can occur at the stand, laboratory, and industry levels. One type of false indication is an alarm that is not the result of a real problem but is, rather, an anomaly. A second type of false indication occurs when a real problem exists, yet the control charts remain within acceptable limits. On occasion, when sufficient technical information is available, either type of false indication can be identified as such. In these cases, the ASTM Test Monitoring Center (TMC), through the application of engineering judgment, may determine that a deviation from normal LTMS actions is warranted. The following points describe the process by which engineering judgment is applied by the TMC:

1. The TMC determines if the potential exists for the application of engineering judgment in the interpretation of control charts.

2. When it is determined that the potential exists for the application of engineering judgment, all subsequent investigation proceeds under the assumption that the current control chart indications are correct.

3. When an engineering investigation is commenced, it is incumbent on the affected lab(s) to prepare necessary technical information in concert with the TMC.

4. The ACC Monitoring Agency will be notified that an engineering investigation involving control chart interpretation has commenced.

5. The TMC may solicit relevant input from outside sources, such as the Test Developer, Surveillance Panel Chairman, O&H Subpanel Leader and the ACC Monitoring Agency. In all cases, the confidentially of the affected lab(s) will be appropriately maintained.

6. If, in the judgment of the TMC, a deviation from normal LTMS actions is warranted, this judgment will be documented in writing along with a summary of the relevant technical information considered in making the judgment. The affected lab(s) and the ACC Monitoring Agency will receive copies of this document.

7. If, in the judgment of the TMC, normal LTMS action should be followed by the affected lab(s), no special documentation is required.

8. The application of engineering judgment in the interpretation of LTMS control charts is handled on a case-by-case basis. The TMC does not consider any prior judgment rendered to be precedent setting.

J. GUIDELINES FOR NUMBERING OF NEW TEST STANDS

Each new test stand entering the LTMS shall be assigned a coded apparatus number by the TMC. If the new stand was previously calibrated in the LTMS, the original coded apparatus number plus a letter suffix (i.e., A, B, C, etc.) shall be used each time the stand reenters the system.

K. SURVEILLANCE PANEL GUIDELINES FOR REVISIONS TO THE LTMS

The final authority for specifying the test-specific requirements of the LTMS resides with the surveillance panels of Subcommittee D02.B0.

1. Surveillance panels shall strive for unanimous approval of any revision to the LTMS.

2. Except in the case of an urgent target update, surveillance panel chairmen shall allow at least two weeks for review and possible panel discussion prior to the effective date of an LTMS revision.

3. To ensure the value of the two-week review, it is expected that each surveillance panel member will be responsible for representing their organization’s technical position.

4. In those instances when the panel vote on a proposed LTMS revision is not unanimous, all minority voters shall be given sufficient opportunity to present the technical basis for their votes.

The surveillance panel shall make every effort to resolve minority voter concerns in order for there to be a consensus on the proposed LTMS revision. In the event unanimity cannot be achieved, a minority vote can be ruled non-persuasive by majority vote.

L. GUIDELINES FOR INTRODUCTION OF NEW PROCEDURES, HARDWARE, PARTS, AND / OR FUEL

There may be occasion when a change is to be made to the defined, existing test in the form of a procedure change, hardware change, parts change and or fuel change. If the surveillance panel is concerned that such a change may potentially change the severity of the test, it is suggested that one of the approaches below be planned prior to testing. In all approaches, non-reference testing should not take place with the changed conditions prior to the completion of the approach.

Approach 1: Matrix or Round Robin

In this approach, a matrix or series of matrices is planned and run. The industry does not move forward with the changes until it has been shown that the changes either:

* do not affect the test, or
* can be corrected with an industry correction factor, or
* can be corrected with severity adjustments, or
* can be corrected with a combination of an industry correction factor and severity adjustments.

In the cases where severity adjustments are deemed adequate, each reference entity must complete at least two valid reference tests run with the changes before calibration may be considered.

Once calibration is achieved, all future tests must be run with the change. Updated Zi apply to subsequent non-reference tests that incorporate the changes, but updated Zi does not apply to any non-reference tests that did not yet incorporate the changes. In the case that a non-reference test run without the changes finishes after the updated Zi based on the changes, the non-reference must be severity adjusted based on Zi prior to any changes.

Approach 2: Use of Level 1 ei

In this approach a reference entity may calibrate with the change, independent of the Industry, by running a reference test and meeting Level 1 ei. If Level 1 ei is not met, the reference entity simply needs to follow the guidelines of the LTMS document. Once calibration is achieved, all future tests on the reference entity must be run with the change. Updated Zi apply to subsequent non-reference tests that incorporate the changes, but updated Zi do not apply to any non-reference tests that did not yet incorporate the changes. In the case that a non-reference test run without the changes finishes after the updated Zi based on the changes, the non-reference must be severity adjusted based on Zi prior to any changes.

M. REFERENCE TEST VALIDITY CODES AND CHARTABLE REFERENCES

In the reference test datasets available on the TMC website (<http://www.astmtmc.cmu.edu/>) validity codes indicate the nature of outcome of each reference test. These codes consist of two letters representing validity designation and test designation as shown in the following chart.

Tests that are appropriate for control and monitoring charting are termed “chartable” and usually identified as such in the TMC datasets. Chartable tests are usually have validity codes AC or OC although they can also be AO or OO tests coming from industry precision studies run during test development.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Validity**  **Designation** | Definition | **Test**  **Designation** | Definition |
| **A** | acceptable for intended purpose | **C** | calibration test |
| **O** | operationally valid,  does not meet statistical criteria | **D** | double blind, for calibration |
| **R** | operationally invalid,  reported as valid by lab, not in stats | **E** | fuel run also for calibration |
| **X** | aborted, not in stats | **F** | fuel run for fuel approval only |
| **L** | operationally invalid  as determined by lab, not in stats | **G** | industry donated test, not for calibration |
| **N** | acceptable for intended purpose,  and not in stats | **H** | hardware run also for calibration |
| **M** | not acceptable for intended purpose, and not in stats | **I** | hardware run for hardware approval only |
| **P** | pending (not resolved), not in stats | **N** | non-blind, information |
| **T** | Temporary | **O** | calibration approval by sources other than TMC |
|  |  | **S** | discrimination test, not for calibration |

APPENDICES A through D carried over from old LTMS

## APPENDIX E

APPLYING SEVERITY ADJUSTMENTS

In order to adjust non-reference oil test results for laboratory or stand and / or hardware severity, an exponentially weighted, moving average technique (EWMA) is applied to standardized calibration test results.

Severity Adjustment Calculation Procedure:

Round Zi to three decimal places.

If a Severity Adjustment (SA) applies, calculate it as follows:

SA = -1\*(Zi)\*sSA

where sSA = specified severity adjustment standard deviation for each parameter as shown in each test area section.

Round the SA value, using the method specified in Practice E 29, to the precision level specified in the test area data dictionary. Add the SA to the test result in the appropriate Units of Measure.

EXAMPLES:

Non-transformed Result-Laboratory Level, Sequence IID, Average Engine Rust (AER)

If the absolute value of the EWMA exceeds 0.600, apply a severity adjustment to subsequent non-reference oil results. The following example illustrates the use of the EWMA in determining the application of a severity adjustment.

Zi = (Lambda)\*Yi + (1-Lambda)\*Zi-1

For this example, Zi-1 is 0.572 and Yi is 1.469. Lambda for the Sequence IID test area is 0.2.

Applying these values to the Zi equation yields the following:

Zi = 0.2\*1.469 + (1-0.2)\*0.572 = 0.7514.

This result is then rounded to three decimal places, which gives a Zi value of 0.751. Since the absolute value of Zi (0.751) is > 0.600, then subsequent non-reference oil tests will be severity adjusted. This is accomplished by multiplying –1 times the Zi value and multiplying this result by the severity adjustment standard deviation shown in Section 2. In this case, that value is 0.12, and results in a severity adjustment of –1\*0.751\*0.12 = -0.09. All subsequent non-reference oil tests will have their AER values adjusted by adding –0.09 to the AER result. This severity adjustment will remain in effect until another reference oil test is completed at this laboratory. At that time, a new Zi value will be calculated.

Transformed Result-Laboratory Level, 1N, Top Land Heavy Carbon (TLHC)

For transformed results, a severity adjustment must be applied to the non-reference oil result in transformed units, then converted back to reported units. The following is an example of the severity adjustment calculation and the application of this severity adjustment to a non-reference oil result.

Zi = (Lambda)\*Yi + (1-Lambda)\*Zi-1

For this example, Zi-1 = -0.456 and Yi = -1.665. Lambda for the laboratory EWMA severity control chart is 0.2. Applying these values to the Zi equation yields the following:

Zi = 0.2\*-1.665 + (1-0.2)\*-0.456 = -0.6978

This result is then rounded to three decimal places, which gives a Zi value of –0.698. Since the absolute value of Zi (0.698) is > 0.653, then subsequent non-reference oil tests will be severity adjusted. This is accomplished by multiplying –1 times the Zi value and multiplying this result by the severity adjustment standard deviation shown in Section 10. In this case, that value is 0.9 and results in a severity adjustment of –1\*-0.698\*0.9 = 0.628. All subsequent non-reference oil tests will have their TLHC values adjusted by adding 0.628 to the TLHC result, in transformed units. This severity adjustment will remain in effect until another reference oil test is completed at this laboratory. At that time, a new Zi value will be calculated. To illustrate the application of a severity adjustment to a parameter which has a transformation, it is necessary to transform the non-reference oil result, apply the severity adjustment, and convert the result back to reported units. The following describes this process using the values derived above.

At the completion of a laboratory’s last reference oil test, it has been determined that a severity adjustment for Top Land Heavy Carbon is needed. A subsequent non-reference oil test is completed yielding 0% Top Land Heavy Carbon. To severity adjust the non-reference oil test result, it must first be converted to transformed units. This is done by adding 1.0 to the result and then taking the natural log of the sum. This results in a value of 0 in transformed units. Add the previous paragraph’s adjustment of 0.628 to 0. This sum of 0.628 is the non-reference oil test’s severity adjusted result in transformed units. To convert back to original units, calculate the anti-log of the transformed value and subtract 1 from the result (e0.628 – 1). This yields a value of 0.8738 in original units (%).

APPENDIX F

TEMPLATES FOR VERSION 2 STAND AND LABORATORY BASED LTMS

# *<Test Name>* LTMS Requirements(A Laboratory Based Severity Adjustment System)

The following are the specific *<Test Name>* calibration test requirements.

A. Reference Oils and Parameters

The primary parameter is Parameter 1 and the secondary parameter is Parameter 2. The reference oils required for test stand and test laboratory calibration are reference oils accepted by the ASTM *<Test Name>* Surveillance Panel. The means and standard deviations for the current reference oils for each parameter are presented below.

PARAMETER 1

Unit of Measure: *units(including transform if any)*

PRIMARY PARAMETER

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Reference Oil | Target | Standard Deviation |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

PARAMETER 2

Unit of Measure: *units(including transform if any)*

SECONDARY PARAMETER

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Reference Oil | Target | Standard Deviation |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

B. Acceptance Criteria

1. New test labs and test stands in an existing test lab that have not run an acceptable reference in the past two years.

a. A minimum of three (3) operationally valid reference and / or matrix tests must be run on the first test stand in a new laboratory.

• Subsequent test stands in a lab may calibrate with one test provided it meets Level 1 limit requirement. Otherwise a second test is required for calibration.

* Note that industry matrix runs may be included, as well as reference runs, at the discretion of the surveillance panel.

b. One operationally valid reference and / or matrix test must be run on a test stand in an existing test lab that has not run an acceptable reference in the past two years before calibration is considered.

* Test stand in a lab may calibrate with one test provided it meets Level 1 limit requirement. Otherwise a second test is required for calibration.

c. Following the necessary tests, check the status of the control charts and follow the prescribed actions.

1. Existing Test Stand

a. Following an operationally valid reference oil calibration test, check the status of the control charts and follow the prescribed actions.

b. If two (2) or more operationally invalid tests occur during the attempt to calibrate an existing stand, then an increase in the reference interval per section 5.d may not be granted.

3. Reference Oil Assignment

Once a test stand has been accepted into the system, the TMC will assign reference oils for continuing calibration according to the following reference oil mix:

* 100% of the scheduled calibration tests should be conducted on reference oils <*Oil XXX*>, <*Oil YYY*>, and <*Oil ZZZ*> or subsequent approved reblends.

4. Adjustment (Zi) and Monitoring (ei) Charts

In Section 1, the construction of the adjustment and monitoring charts used in the Lubricant Test Monitoring System are outlined. The constants used for the construction of the control charts for the <*Test Name*>, and the response necessary in the case of adjustment and monitoring chart limit alarms, are depicted below.

Laboratory Shewhart CONSTANTS for Primary Parameters

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Shewhart Chart of Prediction Error ei = Yi – Zi-1 | |
| Limit Type | Limit |
| Level 3 | 2.06 |
| Level 2 | 1.73 |
| Level 1 | 1.34 |

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Laboratory EWMA CONSTANTS for Parameter X

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| EWMA of Standardized Test Result Zi = λ(Yi) + (1 – λ)Zi-1 | | |
| Limit Type | λ | Limit |
| Level 2  Upper Limit | 0.2 | TBD by SP Input |
| Level 2  Lower Limit | 0.2 | TBD by SP Input |
| Level 1 | 0.2 | 0 |

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5. Chart Status

The following are the steps that must be taken in the case of exceeding chart limits. The steps are listed in order of priority, although charts should be studied simultaneously to determine the cause(s) of a problem. In the case of multiple alarms, contact the TMC for guidance. The laboratory always has the option of removing any stand from the system.

a. Shewhart Chart of Prediction Error (ei) for **primary parameters**

• Level 3

– Immediately conduct one additional reference test in the stand that triggered the alarm. Do not update the control charts for the lab until the follow up reference test is completed and the undue influence analysis, per Section 5.c (below), has been performed.

• Level 2

– Reduce the number of tests allowed in the calibration period in the stand that triggered the alarm to 80% of the standard calibration period.

• Level 1

* + The level 1 limit applies in situations that have been pre-determined by the surveillance panel to have a potential impact on test results. These situations may include the introduction of new critical parts, fuel batches, reference oil reblends, or other test components. When these conditions have been met and a level 1 alarm is triggered, immediately conduct one additional reference test in the stand that triggered the alarm.
  + The level 1 limit also applies to a stand in an existing test lab that has not run an acceptable reference in the past two years. The stand can calibrate with one test if the level 1 limits are not exceeded. Otherwise, immediately conduct another reference test in the stand.

b. EWMA of Standardized Test Result (Zi) for **all parameters**

• Level 2

* + - If Zi is in the severe direction, cap severity adjustment at

SA (of Parameter) = ± (level 2 limit / 1.05) x <*industry approved pass limit standard deviation for the parameter*>

* + - If Zi is in the mild direction and this is a **primary parameter**, immediately conduct one additional reference test in the stand that triggered the alarm. Update Charts.

• Level 1

* The level 1 limit applies to all reference tests that are charted, even when other alarms have been triggered. Level 1 uses Zi to determine the lab severity adjustment (SA). Calculate the test lab SA as follows and confirm the calculation with the TMC:

SA (Parameter 1) = -Zi x <*industry approved pass limit standard deviation for P1*>

SA (Parameter 2) = -Zi x <*industry approved pass limit standard deviation for P2*>

c. Undue Influence Analysis

• The undue influence analysis is performed anytime that a lab ei level 3 alarm is triggered. As prescribed in Section 5.a, level 3, a follow up reference test is run. The following comparisons then determine whether the value of Yi is modified to limit its influence on LTMS.

1. If |Yi – Yi+1| ≤ <ei level 3 limit or 1.96>, then Yi is equal to the value originally determined.
2. If Yi > Zi-1 and Yi-Yi+1 > ei level 3 limit or 1.96, then Yi is set to (ei level 3 limit or 1.96, + Zi-1).
3. If Yi ≤ Zi-1 and Yi-Yi+1 < - ei level 3 limit or 1.96, then Yi is set to (-ei level 3 limit or 1.96, + Zi-1).

Where: i = test that originally triggered level 3 alarm,

i-1 = test prior to alarm trigger, and

i+1 = test immediately following alarm trigger.

Once the proper Yi value has been determined, update the charts. Confirm calculations with the TMC. The laboratory and the TMC maintain a record of the modification.

d. Increase in the Number of Tests for the Stand Calibration Period

• The number of tests allowed in a stand calibration period, for existing stands only, may be increased if the previous test was an acceptable reference based upon the chart results for all primary parameters as follows:

* + If |ei| ≤ 0.50 then the number of tests allowed for that calibration period may be increased by 20% of the standard calibration period, and
  + If |ei| ≤ 0.50 and |Zi|≤ 0.50, then the number of tests allowed for that calibration period may be increased by 40% of the standard calibration period.

Confirm calculations with the TMC.

• If there are two (2) or more operationally invalid tests during the calibration sequence in the same stand, then the increase in calibration period will not be granted.

# *<Test Name>* LTMS Requirements (A Stand Based Severity Adjustment System)

The following are the specific *<Test Name>* calibration test requirements. For brevity, “stand” as used in this section refers to severity adjustment entity which might be a stand and / or engine or hardware.

A. Reference Oils and Parameters

The primary parameter is Parameter 1 and the secondary parameter is Parameter 2. The reference oils required for test stand and test laboratory calibration are reference oils accepted by the ASTM *<Test Name>* Surveillance Panel. The means and standard deviations for the current reference oils for each parameter are presented below.

PARAMETER 1

Unit of Measure: *units(including transform if any)*

PRIMARY PARAMETER

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Reference Oil | Mean | Standard Deviation |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

PARAMETER 2

Unit of Measure: *units(including transform if any)*

SECONDARY PARAMETER

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Reference Oil | Mean | Standard Deviation |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

B. Acceptance Criteria

1. New test stands and stands that have not run an acceptable reference in the past two years.

a. A minimum of three (3) operationally valid reference/matrix tests must be run on the each test stand before calibration is considered.

* Note that industry matrix runs may be included, as well as reference runs, at the discretion of the surveillance panel.

b. Following the necessary tests, check the status of the charts and follow the prescribed actions

# Existing Test Stand

a. Following an operationally valid reference oil calibration test, check the status of the charts and follow the prescribed actions.

b. If two (2) or more operationally invalid tests occur during the attempt to calibrate an existing stand, then an increase in the reference interval per section 5.d may not be granted.

3. Reference Oil Assignment

Once a test stand has been accepted into the system, the TMC will assign reference oils for continuing calibration according to the following reference oil mix:

* 100% of the scheduled calibration tests should be conducted on reference oils <*Oil XXX*>, <*Oil YYY*>, and <*Oil ZZZ*> or subsequent approved reblends.

4. Adjustment (Zi) and Monitoring (ei) Charts

In Section 1, the construction of the charts used in the Lubricant Test Monitoring System is outlined. The constants used for the construction of the control charts for the <*Test Name*>, and the response necessary in the case of adjustment and monitoring chart limit alarms, are depicted below.

Stand Shewhart CONSTANTS for Primary Parameters

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Shewhart Chart of Prediction Error ei = Yi – Zi-1 | |
| Limit Type | Limit |
| Level 3 | 2.06 |
| Level 2 | 1.73 |
| Level 1 | 1.34 |

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Stand EWMA CONSTANTS for Parameter X

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| EWMA of Standardized Test Result Zi = λ(Yi) + (1 – λ)Zi-1 | | |
| Limit Type | λ | Limit |
| Level 2 Upper Limit | 0.2 | TBD by SP Input |
| Level 2 Lower Limit | 0.2 | TBD by SP Input |
| Level 1 | 0.2 | 0 |

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5. Chart Status

The following are the steps that must be taken in the case of exceeding chart limits. The steps are listed in order of priority, although charts should be studied simultaneously to determine the cause(s) of a problem. In the case of multiple alarms, contact the TMC for guidance. The laboratory always has the option of removing any stand from the system.

a. Shewhart Chart of Prediction Error (ei) for **primary parameters**

• Level 3

– Immediately conduct one additional reference test in the stand that triggered the alarm. Do not update the charts for the lab until the follow up reference test is completed and the undue influence analysis, per Section 5.c (below), has been performed.

• Level 2

– Reduce the number of tests allowed in the calibration period in the stand that triggered the alarm to 80% of the standard calibration period.

• Level 1

* + The level 1 limit applies in situations that have been pre-determined by the surveillance panel to have a potential impact on test results. These situations may include the introduction of new critical parts, fuel batches, reference oil reblends, or other test components. When these conditions have been met and a level 1 alarm is triggered, immediately conduct one additional reference test in the stand that triggered the alarm.
  + The level 1 limit also applies to a stand in an existing test lab that has not run an acceptable reference in the past two years. The stand can calibrate with one test if the level 1 limits are not exceeded. Otherwise, immediately conduct another reference test in the stand.

b. EWMA of Standardized Test Result (Zi) for **all parameters**

• Level 2

– If Zi is in the severe direction, cap severity adjustment at

SA (of Parameter) = - level 2 limit or 1.96value x <*industry approved pass limit standard deviation for P1*>

- If Zi is in the mild direction, immediately conduct one additional reference test in the stand that triggered the alarm. Update charts. {did we agree to this?}

• Level 1

* The level 1 limit applies to all reference tests that are control charted, even when other alarms have been triggered. Level 1 uses Zi to determine the stand severity adjustment (SA). Calculate the test stand SA as follows and confirm the calculation with the TMC:

SA (Parameter 1) = -Zi x <*industry approved pass limit standard deviation for P1*>

SA (Parameter 2) = -Zi x <*industry approved pass limit standard deviation for P2*>

c. Undue Influence Analysis

• The undue influence analysis is performed anytime that a lab Shewhart chart (ei) level 3 alarm is triggered. As prescribed in Section 5.a, level 3, a follow up reference test is run. The following comparisons then determine whether the value of Yi is modified to limit its influence on LTMS.

1. If |Yi – Yi+1| ≤ ei level 3 limit or 1.96, then Yi is equal to the value originally determined.
2. If Yi ≥ Zi-1 and Yi-Yi+1 > ei level 3 limit or 1.96, then Yi is set to (ei level 3 limit or 1.96+ Zi-1).
3. If Yi < Zi-1 and Yi-Yi+1 < - ei level 3 limit or 1.96, then Yi is set to (-ei level 3 limit or 1.96+ Zi-1).

Where: i = test that originally triggered Level 3 alarm,

i-1 = test prior to alarm trigger, and

i+1 = test immediately following alarm trigger.

Once the proper Yi value has been determined, update the charts. Confirm calculations with the TMC. The laboratory and the TMC maintain a record of the modification.

d. Increase in the Number of Tests for the Stand Calibration Period

• The number of tests allowed in a stand calibration period, for existing stands only, may be increased if the previous test was an acceptable reference based upon the chart results for all primary parameters as follows:

* + If |ei| ≤ 0.50 then the number of tests allowed for that calibration period may be increased by 20% of the standard calibration period, and
  + If |ei| ≤ 0.50 and |Zi|≤ 0.50, then the number of tests allowed for that calibration period may be increased by 40% of the standard calibration period.

Confirm calculations with the TMC.

• If there are two (2) or more operationally invalid tests during the calibration sequence, then the increase in calibration period will not be granted.

APPENDIX G

DEVELOPMENT OF VARIANCE ESTIMATORS AND CHART LIMITS

If we assume the Yi to be independent and identically distributed, the variance for the EWMA can be estimated by

 for i=0,1,2,3, …

As i increases, the first bracketed factor decreases and we might approximate the variance of the EWMA as



Then, if we assume normalization makes Yi ~N(0,1), we might further simplify to



And limits for the EWMA chart for monitoring severity (Zi plotted against completion date order) might be expressed as



Similarly, the variance of ei might then be approximately estimated by



And limits for Shewhart charts of the ei’s might be expressed as



In fact, we believe the Yi to be nonstationary (i.e., there is not a constant mean) and to frequently exhibit autocorrelation. Alternatively, we could assume that the EWMA or equivalent ARIMA(0,1,1) adequately models the data such that we could assume the residuals from the model are iid N(0,) where  could be estimated as the Mean Squared Error from the EWMA prediction. We suggest these exceptions to our startup assumptions be reviewed along with regular review of reference oil variances.

APPENDIX H

FLOW CHARTS

APPENDIX I

REFERENCES

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