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ExxonMobil Responds to Shell's Claim re Mobil Delvac 1300 Super Not Meeting API CK-4

ExxonMobil has responded to Shell's claim that Mobil Delvac 1300 Super 15W-40 does not meet API CK-4 performance standards, nor the more stringent requirements for Volvo, MACK and Cummins. In a statement issued last Tuesday, and sent to OEM/Lube News, Exxon Mobil said "ExxonMobil stands by the quality of our products and re-affirms that Mobil Delvac 1300 Super 15W-40 carries valid OEM approvals and API CK-4 licensing." In addition, Volvo has confirmed that the Volvo VDS-4.5 and Mack EOS-4.5 approvals for Mobil Delvac 1300 Super 15W-40 remain intact based on the fully compliant data set originally submitted, which includes passing the Volvo T-13 engine test results for oxidation and viscosity increase at the more stringent Volvo limits. Beyond valid API licensure and OEM approvals, Mobil Delvac 1300 Super and Mobil Delvac Super FE have proven on-road performance in ExxonMobil controlled field trials utilizing 69 representative trucks accumulating 23 million miles. ExxonMobil cannot address the specifics of the test results Shell produced, because we do not have the data, but we are conducting a thorough investigation."

Shell and Maserati Launch New Co-branded Factory Fill and Aftermarket Service Motor Oil

Shell and Maserati are introducing a brand new co-branded motor oil known as Shell Helix Ultra Maserati 10W-60 - the only recommended oil for all Maserati's 2018 models across the globe equipped with the V6 Gasoline engine. This new product follows the previous Shell Helix Ultra Maserati 5W-40 for Maserati's 2017 models. This new co-branded motor oil is part of Shell's ongoing deal with Maserati as its exclusive lubricants supplier, which runs until 2020. The Maserati's 2018 cars (V6 Gasoline engine) will get a first fill of the new product from the production lines in Modena and Turin, Italy. The product will also be available as refills at any one of the over 450 authorized Maserati dealerships around the world. Maserati issued a statement that its customers can therefore be confident that their Maserati car is continuously serviced with the most high-quality motor oil manufactured by Shell to provide Maserati's engines with high performance and engine protection throughout the car's lifespan. "After the successful collaboration put in place for 5W-40, Maserati and Shell worked again together to develop a new co-branded motor oil specifically formulated and tested to optimize the power of our engines. Shell shares with us the same commitment to provide outstanding performances with passion for excellence and innovation, that's why we chose their technical excellence for our cars", said Rosberto McGinnis, Head of Maserati Parts & Service, Maserati Spa. Patrick Carre, Shell's Global Vice President for Lubricants Key Accounts, adds, "This new product, combined with our renewed deal takes our collaboration with Maserati to the next level. Our new product gives Maserati's customers access to a world class co-branded product endorsed by Maserati - Shell Helix Ultra Maserati, which ensures that Maserati's customers continues to have their high-performance engines protected by high-quality motor oil featuring the latest in lubricants innovation, Shell PurePlus Technology." The fully synthetic premium engine oil is specially formulated to meet the engine requirements of Maserati's engines. Shell Helix Ultra Maserati 10W-60 uses Shell's unique gas-to-liquid (GTL)-based PurePlus Technology and is designed in collaboration with Maserati to meet the technical needs of their engines.

Eaton Revises Its Lubricant Suppliers List

Eaton has revised its Lubricant Suppliers List (TCMT0020 EN-US), which lists suppliers of approved fluids that meet the PS-386 transmission lubricant specification (which replaced PS-164rev7) and the PS-278 wet dual clutch Procision transmission lubricant specification, the latter being the only approved lubricants that are acceptable for use in the Procision transmission.

As referenced above, Eaton transmission lubricant specification PS-164rev7 has been replaced by PS-386. All applications that required the use of PS-164rev7 approved lubricants now require the use of PS-386 approved lubricants.

Eaton makes a note that PS-278 approved lubricants are the only acceptable lubricant for the Procision transmission. NOTICE: Do not use PS-278 oil in other Eaton transmission models or damage may occur.

Eaton makes a special note: To avoid damage to vehicle, never mix engine oils and synthetic transmission oils in the same transmission. When switching between types of lubricants, all areas of each affected component must be thoroughly drained. Do not introduce additives and friction modifiers. Do not mix lubricants of different grades. Do not mix mineral and synthetic lubricants. Do not mix heavy-duty, multi-purpose lithium based (#2 grade) grease with Sodium based grease.

The revised approved lubricants lists (listing all approved suppliers and product names) are broken down geographically to include the following regions:

- Eaton PS-386 Approved Heavy-duty Transmission Lubricant Suppliers-United States,Canada, Mexico, Australia & New Zealand, India, China and Europe
- Eaton PS-278 Approved Procision Transmission Lubricant Suppliers United States,Canada, Mexico, Australia & New Zealand, India, China and Europe
- Eaton Recommended Axle Lubricant Suppliers - United States,Canada, Mexico, Australia & New Zealand, India, China and Europe

Eaton makes a note that All major OEMs have transitioned to the PS-386 approved lubricants.

Eaton markets their own branded lubricants which include the following:

- PS-386 Synthetic Transmission Lubricant
- PS-278 Synthetic Transmission Lubricant for Procision transmissions
- Eaton 75W-90 Synthetic Gear/Axle Lubricant
- Eaton 80W-140 Synthetic Gear/Axle Lubricant
- Eaton FE 75W-90 Fuel Efficient Synthetic Gear/Axle Lubricant
- Eaton EP-2 Grease - Multipurpose NLGI 2 lithium-complex

Revisions made to this Lubricant Suppliers List (TCMT0020 EN-US) this year include the following:

- This May 2018 revision changed Federated Co-operatives Ltd. axle lubricant from a Category 2 to a Category 3.
- In April 2018 Eaton added Pennzoil-Quaker State Company DBA SOPUS Products (Shell) to the Approved PS-278 list for US & Canada; updated for US on Recommended list.
- In March 2018 Eaton added Federated Co-Operatives Ltd to the Approved list for US & Canada; updated for US on Recommended list. Updated Petro-Canada Lubricants for all regions. Updated Supplier Shell to include Canada Region Availability
- In February 2018 Eaton updated Supplier Chevron Products to include all Region Availability
- In January 2018 Eaton added Schaeffer Manufacturing Company to Eaton Approved Heavy-Duty Transmission Lubricant Suppliers. Updated D-A SynSure™ SAE 75W-90 and Valvoline HD Synthetic Gear Oil EP 75W-90 to Category 3 in Eaton Recommended Axle Lubricant Suppliers

To view the latest approved lubricant suppliers lists, **click here**.

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Infineum Breaks Ground on Its Global Centre of Innovation

Infineum recently held a Ground-breaking Ceremony at their Headquarters in Milton Hill. This was to mark the start of their multi-million pound investment into their site close to Didcot, bringing more than 80 new jobs to Oxfordshire. Infineum said the new Global Centre of Innovation will deliver the necessary infrastructure to support their technology leadership and to enable improved innovation, with a state of the art new building. This will encompass new laboratories for research and development, a variety of collaborative meeting spaces and a new restaurant for all employees and visitors. On 21 May 2018, Infineum senior leaders and project team members joined with representatives from Kier Construction Central, who will build the new facility, to break the ground and officially start the construction of this new building. Trevor Russell, CEO Infineum and Mark Pausey, Managing Director, Kier Construction Central officially started the project by breaking ground at the site of the new building "Technology leadership in our global marketplace is critical to our success. This new extension to our existing facilities at Milton Hill will enable even higher levels of collaboration and innovation which in turn will lead to even better products being developed for our customers. We continue to invest in our future growth and this new facility will be a key part of our global network" Trevor Russell - CEO, Infineum International Ltd. "Kier is looking forward to working closely with Infineum on this important project and continuing to grow our presence in the Oxfordshire market." Mark Pausey – Managing Director, Kier Construction Central. The project is due to complete mid-2019, with normal Infineum operations continuing onsite throughout the build.

FDA Approves Zschimmer & Schwarz Georgia Plant to Manufacture LEXOLUBE FG-HX1 Synthetic Ester

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved the Zschimmer & Schwarz factory in Milledgeville, Ga., U.S.A., to manufacture the "Lexolube FG-HX1" synthetic esters for use as a lubricant ingredient with incidental food contact. The FDA confirmed the chemical identity matches esters previously manufactured by INOLEX in Philadelphia, Penn, U.S.A. All Lexolube FG-HX1 products will now be supplied directly from Z&S in the U.S. state of Georgia. The Lexolube FG-HX1 base fluids are designed for high-performance H1 registered food processing lubricants and greases used in high-temperature applications such as oven chain lubricants, gear lubricants and compressor oils. The full range of Lexolube HX-1 products can be found in the NSF White Book (info.nsf.org/USDA/Listings.asp). Additionally, all are certified Kosher by the Atlanta Kashruth Commission and Halal by the American Halal Foundation. Methods and uses of the Lexolube FG-HX1 products in food processing applications are covered under Canadian patent 2,726,988 and are patent pending in other countries.

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