

# PRODUCT NEWS

## E-Mail Edition

MAY 2006

This issue will feature gear lubricants. Two important changes occurred which are discussed below. Both are SAE generated standards.

### VISCOSITY CATEGORY CHANGES—SAE J 306

Recently the SAE J 306 Specification was changed which reclassified the SAE 90 and 140 grades and created two new intermediate SAE viscosity grades.

In the prior version, the range of the SAE 90 and 140 were very broad and hence two products with the same SAE grade could have different fuel economy or durability. As a result they have narrowed the range for the 90 and 140 and added intermediate grades. The new intermediate grades are the 110 and 190 grades. Below is the new classification table for automotive gear lubricant viscosity classifications.

SAE Viscosity Grade	Maximum Temp. for viscosity of 150,000 cP (°C) <sup>1,2</sup>	Kinematic Viscosity (ASTM D 445) at 100°C (cSt)	
		Minimum <sup>3,4</sup>	Maximum
70W	-55	4.1	-
75W	-40	4.1	-
80W	-26	7.0	-
85W	-12	11.0	-
80	-	7.0	10.99
85	-	11.0	13.49
90	-	13.5	18.49**
110**	-	18.5**	23.99**
140	-	24.0	32.49**
190**	-	32.5**	40.99**
250	-	41.0	-

\*\* Changes this issue. SAE 110 and 190 grades added. Viscosity limits revised.

1. Using ASTM D 2983.
2. Additional low-temperature viscosity requirements may be appropriate for fluids intended for use in light duty synchronized manual transmissions.
3. Limit must also be met after testing in CEC L-45-A-99, Method C (20 hours).
4. The precision of ASTM D 2983 has not been established for determinations made at temperatures below -40°C.

At this time LUBRICANTS USA will not offer either the 110 or 190 grades because our current products, graded as SAE 80W-90, 90, 85W-140 or 140, etc. will meet the revised SAE J-306 viscosity range requirements.

### **AXLE LUBRICANTS—SAE J-2360**

API GL-5, API MT-1 and MIL PRF-2105E specifications have defined top-of-the-line axle gear lubricants. A new standard was recently issued by SAE that is more global in nature. SAE J-2360 is a new global quality standard, which is now specified by many North American OEMs. The standard includes most of the axle and transmission testing requirements identified in API GL-5, API MT-1 and MIL-PRF-2105E including the demonstrated proof-of-performance rigorous testing. The new standard does not require military review, which allows blenders outside of North America to meet this standard.

The consequence is that bids may start to require SAE J-2360 instead of API MT-1, API GL-5 and MIL-PRF-2105E. Some bids will show all three standards for clarity.

### **FINA GEAR LUBRICANTS**

The following FINA-branded products meet the new SAE J-2360:

Synpro Gear Oil (75W-90, 75W-140, 80W-140)

Pontonic MPX (80W-90, 85W-140)

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this newsletter please contact Alan Denniston by e-mail at [Alan.Denniston@FinaLube.com](mailto:Alan.Denniston@FinaLube.com), or by phone at 469-241-0950 ext 16.