## BASE OIL CHEMISTRY FOR DIESEL ENGINE LUBRICANTS

CLIFF MANSFIELD EQUILON ENTERPRISES 31 JANUARY 2000



## **API BASE OIL GRADES**

- GROUP I BASE STOCK
  - CONTAINS <90% SATURATES
  - CONTAINS >0.03% SULFUR
  - HAS A VISCOSITY INDEX >80 AND <120
- GROUP II BASE STOCK
  - CONTAINS > 90% SATURATES
  - CONTAINS <0.03% SULFUR
  - HAS A VISCOSITY INDEX >80 AND <120
- GROUP III BASE STOCK
  - CONTAINS >90% SATURATES AND <0.03% SULFUR</p>
  - HAS A VISCOSITY INDEX >120



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## LUBRICANT BASE OILS

- BASE OILS MAKE UP APPROX. 80 TO 86% OF FINISHED DIESEL LUBRICANT
- MINERAL BASE OILS PROCESSED PETROLEUM FRACTIONS, GENERALLY IN THE C20 TO C40 CARBON NUMBER RANGE
- TYPICAL 10W-40 BASE OIL WILL HAVE AN AVERAGE CARBON NUMBER OF ~31-32
- SYNTHETIC BASE OILS POLYALPHAOLEFINS -MADE BY POLYMERIZATION OF DECENE UNITS



#### POSSIBLE ALKANE ISOMERS

CARBON NUMBER

C20

C30

**NO. OF ISOMERS** 

C10

75

366,319

4,111,846,763

C40 62,491,178,805,831

- TASK MADE DIFFICULT BY LARGE NUMBER OF POSSIBLE ISOMERS
- AT THE LEAST, ONE IS REDUCED TO THE ANALYSIS OF COMPOUNDS BY CLASS, E.G.
   – % SATURATES, % AROMATICS, %POLARS
- AT THE BEST, ONE CAN ANALYZE BY COMPOUND TYPE
  - % PARAFFINS, % MONOCYCLOPARAFFINS, % DICYCLOPARAFFINS, % TRI.....
  - %MONOAROMATICS, % DIAROMATICS, % TRI......
- CAN DO ELEMENTAL ANALYSIS, E.G., S AND N



## **BASE OIL COMPOSITION**

- API BASE OIL CATEGORIES ARE DEFINED
  USING ASTM D2007 NOT RELIABLE METHOD
- TYPICAL BASE OIL ANALYSIS WOULD INVOLVE SEPARATION OF COMPOUND CLASSES BY D2549 OR RELATED METHOD TO GIVE SATURATES, AROMATICS, AND POLAR FRACTIONS
- FRACTIONS ANALYZED BY SOME TYPE OF MASS SPECTROMETRY METHOD TO GIVE % OF VARIOUS COMPOUND TYPES, e.g., % paraffins, % mononapthenes, % dinapthenes, ...



## COMPOSITIONAL PROPERTIES FOR FUEL ECONOMY

PROPERTIES NEEDED FOR BETTER FUEL ECONOMY (LOWER PVC)

- REDUCED POLYAROMATICS
- REDUCED POLYNAPTHENES
- LONG ALKYL CHAINS



# BASE OIL IMPACTS ON DIESEL PARTICULATES

- COMPOSITIONAL FACTORS NOT KNOWN AT THIS POINT
- KNOWN LUBRICANT FACTORS THAT IMPACT PARTICULATES
  - VISCOSITY
  - DEPOSIT FORMING TENDENCIES
- MORE STUDIES NEEDED



## **COMPOSITION IMPACTS IN OTHER TESTS**

- MACK T-8 / T-8E BEST PERFORMANCE WITH HIGH SATURATES BASE OILS AND BOOSTED ASHLESS DISPERSANTS PACKAGES WITH MODERATE DETERGENT LEVELS
- CAT 1K, 1N, AND 1P BEST PERFORMANCE WITH HIGH DETERGENCY, HIGH AROMATICS, AND MODERTE SULFATED ASH

R. A. Cherillo and A. Huang, "The Increasing Significance of Base Oils in the Evolution of Heavy-Duty Diesel Engine Oils", NPRA Paper, 1999



#### AROMATICS DO CONTRIBUTE TO SOLVENCY

	GROUP I	GROUP II	
% POLARS AT 10K MILES	26.1	18.7	
% POLARS IN CLEAR TOP	12.6	6.4	
DIFFERENCE	13.5	12.3	



## COMPOSITIONAL FACTORS AFFECTING OXIDATION

- HETEROAROMATIC COMPOUNDS N AND S
- POLYAROMATICS
- POLYNAPTHENES
- MONOAROMATICS
- MONONAPTHENES
- PARAFFINS

DECREASING POTENTIAL FOR OXIDATION



## OXIDATION IN SEQUENCE IIIE (FIXED ADDITIVE PACKAGE)

## GROUP I > GROUP II > GROUP III > GROUP IV

<u>NOTE:</u> THIS IS A GENERALIZATION. DEPENDING ON COMPOSITION, SOME GROUP II'S MIGHT OUT PERFORM SOME GROUP III'S. SOME GROUP III'S CAN PERFORM AS WELL AS GROUP IV'S.

# FI-MS OF SATURATE FRACTION OF 10W-40 BASE OIL BLEND



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# COMPOSITION OF SOME TYPICAL BASE OILS

	<b>GROUP I</b>	<b>GROUP II</b>	GROUP III
% PARAFFINS	15.52	21.39	41.63
% MONONAP	26.28	35.59	38.11
% POLYNAP	36.2	39.4	20.12
% MONOARO	14.79	1.39	na
% POLYAROM	3.86	1.4	na
% THIO	1.4	0.21	na

# IMPACT OF COMPOSITION ON PROPERTIES

- PERFORMANCE PROPERTIES OF DIESEL
  LUBRICANT DEPEND ON BOTH BASE OIL AND
  ADDITIVE CHEMISTRY
- HOLDING THE ADDITIVE PACKAGE CONSTANT, ONE CAN MAKE CERTAIN GENERALIZATIONS ABOUT BASE OIL CHEMISTRY FOR
  - OXIDATION
  - FUEL ECONOMY
  - SOLVENCY

