



European
Automobile
Manufacturers
Association

ACEA EUROPEAN OIL SEQUENCES

2016

**SERVICE FILL ENGINE OILS
for GASOLINE & LIGHT DUTY DIESEL ENGINES
(A/B Categories),
GASOLINE & LIGHT DUTY DIESEL ENGINES
with EXHAUST AFTERTREATMENT DEVICES
(C Categories),
and HEAVY DUTY DIESEL ENGINES
(E Categories)**

ACEA

Avenue des Nerviens 85

B-1040 Bruxelles

Tel (32) 2 732 55 50

Fax (32) 2 738 73 10

(32) 2 738 73 11

info@acea.be

communications@acea.be

www.ACEA.be

TVA BE 444 072 631

SGB 210-0069404-04

This document details the ACEA 2016 European Oil Sequences for Service-fill Oils for Gasoline engines, for Light Duty Diesel engines, for Gasoline & Diesel engines with after treatment devices and for Heavy Duty Diesel engines. These sequences define the minimum quality level of a product for presentation to ACEA members. Individual member companies may indicate performance parameters other than those covered by the tests shown or more stringent limits.

The ACEA 2016 European Oil Sequences for Service-fill Oils comprise 3 sets (classes) of sequences: one for Gasoline and Light Duty Diesel engines; one specifically for Gasoline and Light Duty Diesel engines with after treatment devices and one for Heavy Duty Diesel engines. Within each of these sets there are categories which reflect different performance requirements – three (A3/B3, A3/B4 & A5/B5) for Gasoline and Light Duty Diesel Engines, five (C1, C2, C3, C4, C5) specifically for Engines with After Treatment Devices, and four (E4, E6, E7, E9) for Heavy Duty Diesel Engines. Typical applications for each sequence are described below for guidance only. Specific applications of each sequence are the responsibility of individual engine manufacturers for their own vehicles / engines.

The Oil Sequences define the minimum quality level of a product for self-certification to EELQMS and presentation to ACEA members. Individual member companies may indicate performance parameters other than those covered by the tests shown or more stringent limits.

These Oil Sequences will replace the ACEA 2012 Oil Sequences as a means of defining engine lubricant quality as of 1 December 2016.

CONDITIONS FOR USE OF PERFORMANCE CLAIMS AGAINST THE ACEA OIL SEQUENCES

ACEA requires that any claims for Oil performance to meet these Oil Sequences must be based on credible data and controlled tests in accredited test laboratories.

ACEA requires that engine performance testing used to support a claim of compliance with these ACEA Oil Sequences should be generated according to the **European Engine Lubricants Quality Management System**, EELQMS (available at www.eelqms.eu), but ACEA reserves the right to define alternatives in exceptional cases.

EELQMS addresses product development testing and product performance documentation, and involves the registration of all candidate and reference oil testing and defines the compliance process. Compliance with the ATIEL Code of Practice¹, which forms part of the EELQMS, is mandatory for any claim to meet the requirements of this issue of the ACEA sequences. Therefore, ACEA requires that claims against the ACEA Oil Sequences can only be made by oil companies or oil distributors who have signed the EELQMS oil marketers' Letter of Conformance (for details: www.atiel.org).

The ACEA Oil Sequences are subject to continuous development. Replacement tests and other changes required by the European vehicle manufacturers are integrated and new issues are published on a regular basis. As new editions are published older editions have to be withdrawn. Validities of new and old editions are overlapping for limited periods of time as shown in the following table and the accompanying text below. When a new ACEA Oil Sequence is introduced, oils with claims against the previous can be marketed only for another two years.

| Sequences Issue | First allowable use | Mandatory for new claims | Oils with this claim may be marketed until |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 2004 | 1 st November 2004 | 1 st November 2005 | 31 st December 2009 |
| 2007 | 1 st February 2007 | 1 st February 2008 | 23 rd December 2010 |
| 2008 | 22 nd December 2008 | 22 nd December 2009 | 22 nd December 2012 |
| 2010 | 22 nd December 2010 | 22 nd December 2011 | 22 nd December 2014 |
| 2012 | 14 th December 2012 | 14 th December 2013 | 1 st December 2018 |
| 2016 | 1 st December 2016 | 1 st December 2017 | ... |

- First allowable use means that claims cannot be made against the specification before the date indicated.
- Mandatory for new claims means that from this date onward all claims for new oil formulations must be made according to the latest ACEA Oil Sequences Issue. Up to that date new claims can also be made according to the previous ACEA Oil Sequences Issue. After the date indicated no new claims according to the previous ACEA Sequence can be made. Then all oil formulations must be developed according to the latest ACEA release.
- Oils with this claim may be marketed until means that no further marketing of oils with claims to this issue is allowed after the date indicated.

The marketer of any oil claiming ACEA performance requirements is responsible for all aspects of product liability.

¹ The ATIEL Code of Practice is the sole property of ATIEL and is available from ATIEL (Association Technique de l'Industrie Européenne des Lubrifiants), Boulevard du Souverain 165, B-1160 Brussels, Belgium.

Where limits are shown relative to a reference oil, then these must be compared to the last valid Reference Result on that test stand prior to the candidate and using the same hardware. Further details will be in the ATIEL Code of Practice.

Where claims are made that oil performance meets the requirements of the ACEA Oil Sequences (e.g. product literature, packaging, labels) they must specify the ACEA Class and Category (see Nomenclature & ACEA Process for definitions).

CERTIFICATION and REGISTRATION

Claims against the ACEA Oil Sequences can be made on a self-certification basis. For any Claim being made against these ACEA Oil Sequences, ACEA currently recommends Oil Marketers to register their products with the ACEA Registration System on the ACEA website. ACEA will introduce a mandatory registration scheme within 2017 and will inform stakeholders about the procedures to be followed for mandatory registration 3 months in advance of the date of mandatory registration.

All information needed for Registration is available on the ACEA website, see: <http://acea.dossier-on-web.com/eor/engine-oil-registrations/menu/eor/front-page>

Engine Oils claiming any of the ACEA Oil Sequences should be registered directly after their launch into the market. After completing the form, it will be saved on the ACEA server. If claims are no longer needed oil companies are asked to delete their registration.

If claims continue to be used after three years, re-registration is required.

NOMENCLATURE & ACEA PROCESS:

Each set of Oil Sequences is designated for consumer use by a 2-part code comprising a letter to define the CLASS (e.g. C), and a number to define the CATEGORY (e.g. C1).

In addition, for industry use, each sequence has a two-digit number to identify the YEAR of implementation of that severity level (e.g. A3/B4-16).

The CLASS indicates oil intended for a general type of engines – currently there are:

A/B = Gasoline and Light Duty Diesel Engines

C = Catalyst compatible oils for Gasoline and Light Duty Diesel Engines with Aftertreatment devices

E = Heavy Duty Diesel Engines

Other classes may be added in future if, for example, Natural Gas Engines may prove to require oil characteristics which cannot readily be incorporated into existing classes.

The CATEGORY indicates oils for different purposes or applications within that general class, related to some aspect or aspects of the performance level of the oil. Typical applications for each sequence are described below for guidance only. Specific applications of each sequence are the responsibility of the individual motor manufacturer for their own vehicles and engines. Oils within a category may also meet the requirements of another category but some engines may only be suited to oils of one category within a class.

The YEAR numbers for ACEA Sequence is intended only for industry use and indicates the year of implementation of that severity level for the particular category. A new year number will indicate, for example, that a new test, parameter or limit has been incorporated in the category to meet new / upgraded performance requirements whilst remaining compatible with existing applications. An update must always satisfy the applications of the previous issue. If this is not the case, then a new category is required.

An administrative ISSUE Number is added for industry use where it is necessary to update the technical requirements of a sequence without the intention to increase severity (e.g. when a CEC test engine is updated to the latest version whilst maintaining equivalent severity; or where a severity shift in the test requires modification of the specified limits.).

Where claims are made that Oil Performance meets the requirements of the ACEA Oil Sequences (e.g. product literature, packaging, labels) they must specify the ACEA Class and Category (see Nomenclature & ACEA Process for definitions).

«Consumer Language»:

A/B: Gasoline and Diesel Engine Oils – “High SAPS”

A1/B1 Category is removed with these Oil Sequences.

A3/B3 Stable, stay-in-grade Engine Oil intended for use in Passenger Car & Light Duty Van Gasoline & Diesel Engines with extended drain intervals where specified by the Engine Manufacturer, and for severe operating conditions as defined by the Engine Manufacturer.

A3/B4 Stable, stay-in-grade Engine Oil intended for use at extended Drain Intervals in Passenger Car & Light Duty Van Gasoline & DI Diesel Engines, but also suitable for applications described under A3/B3.

A5/B5 Stable, stay-in-grade Engine Oil intended for use at extended Drain Intervals in Passenger Car & Light Duty Van Gasoline & Diesel Engines designed to be capable of using Low Viscosity Oils with HTHS Viscosity of 2.9 to 3.5 mPa·s. These Oils are unsuitable for use in certain Engines - consult vehicle-OEM's owner's manual/handbook in case of doubt.

C: Catalyst & GPF/DPF compatible Engine Oils for Gasoline & Diesel Engines – “Low SAPS”

Note: These Oils will increase the DPF/GPF and TWC life and maintain the Vehicle's Fuel Economy.

Warning: **Some of these Categories may be unsuitable for use in certain Engine Types – consult the vehicle-OEM's owner's manual/handbook in case of doubt.**

C1 Stable, stay-in-grade Engine Oil with Lowest SAPS-Level, intended for use as catalyst compatible Oil at extended Drain Intervals in Vehicles with all Types of modern Aftertreatment Systems and High Performance Passenger Car & Light Duty Van Gasoline & DI Diesel Engines that are designed to be capable of using Low Viscosity Oils with a minimum HTHS Viscosity of 2.9 mPa·s.

C2 Stable, stay-in-grade Engine Oil with Mid SAPS-Level, intended for use as catalyst compatible Oil at extended Drain Intervals in Vehicles with all Types of modern Aftertreatment Systems and High Performance Passenger Car & Light Duty Van Gasoline & DI Diesel Engines that are designed to be capable of using Low Viscosity Oils with a minimum HTHS Viscosity of 2.9 mPa·s.

C3 Stable, stay-in-grade Engine Oil with Mid SAPS-Level, intended for use as catalyst compatible Oil at extended Drain Intervals in Vehicles with all Types of modern Aftertreatment Systems and High Performance Passenger Car & Light Duty Van Gasoline & DI Diesel Engines that are designed to be capable of using Oils with a minimum HTHS Viscosity of 3.5 mPa·s.

C4 Stable, stay-in-grade Engine Oil with Low SAPS-Level, intended for use as catalyst compatible Oil at extended Drain Intervals in Vehicles with all Types of modern Aftertreatment Systems and High Performance Passenger Car & Light Duty Van Gasoline & DI Diesel Engines that are designed to be capable of using Oils with a minimum HTHS Viscosity of 3.5 mPa·s.

C5 Stable, stay-in-grade Engine Oil with Mid SAPS-Level, for further improved Fuel Economy, intended for use as catalyst compatible Oil at extended Drain Intervals in Vehicles with all Types of modern Aftertreatment Systems and High Performance Passenger Car & Light Duty Van Gasoline & DI Diesel Engines that are designed to be capable and OEM-approved for use of Low Viscosity Oils with a minimum HTHS Viscosity of 2.6 mPa·s.

SAPS: Sulphated Ash, Phosphorus, Sulphur

HTHS: High Temperature High Shear Viscosity

DI: Direct Injection

DPF: Diesel Particle Filter

GPF: Gasoline Particle Filter

TWC: Three-Way Catalyst

E: Heavy Duty Diesel Engine Oils

- E4** Stable, stay-in-grade oil providing excellent control of piston cleanliness, wear, soot handling and lubricant stability. It is recommended for highly rated diesel engines meeting Euro I, Euro II, Euro III, Euro IV and Euro V emission requirements and running under very severe conditions, e.g. significantly extended oil drain intervals according to the manufacturer's recommendations. It is suitable for engines without particulate filters, and for some EGR engines and some engines fitted with SCR NOx reduction systems. However, recommendations may differ between engine manufacturers so driver manuals and/or dealers shall be consulted if in doubt.
- E6** Stable, stay-in-grade oil providing excellent control of piston cleanliness, wear, soot handling and lubricant stability. It is recommended for highly rated diesel engines meeting Euro I, Euro II, Euro III, Euro IV, Euro V and Euro VI emission requirements and running under very severe conditions, e.g. significantly extended oil drain intervals according to the manufacturer's recommendations. It is suitable for EGR engines, with or without particulate filters, and for engines fitted with SCR NOx reduction systems. E6 quality is strongly recommended for engines fitted with particulate filters and is designed for use in combination with low sulphur diesel fuel. However, recommendations may differ between engine manufacturers so driver manuals and/or dealers shall be consulted if in doubt.
- E7** Stable, stay-in-grade oil providing effective control with respect to piston cleanliness and bore polishing. It further provides excellent wear control, soot handling and lubricant stability. It is recommended for highly rated diesel engines meeting Euro I, Euro II, Euro III, Euro IV and Euro V emission requirements and running under severe conditions, e.g. extended oil drain intervals according to the manufacturer's recommendations. It is suitable for engines without particulate filters, and for most EGR engines and most engines fitted with SCR NOx reduction systems. However, recommendations may differ between engine manufacturers so driver manuals and/or dealers shall be consulted if in doubt.
- E9** Stable, stay-in-grade oil providing effective control with respect to piston cleanliness and bore polishing. It further provides excellent wear control, soot handling and lubricant stability. It is recommended for highly rated diesel engines meeting Euro I, Euro II, Euro III, Euro IV, Euro V and Euro VI emission requirements and running under severe conditions, e.g. extended oil drain intervals according to the manufacturer's recommendations. It is suitable for engines with or without particulate filters, and for most EGR engines and for most engines fitted with SCR NOx reduction systems. E9 is strongly recommended for engines fitted with particulate filters and is designed for use in combination with low Sulphur diesel fuel. However, recommendations may differ between engine manufacturers so driver manuals and/or dealers should be consulted if in doubt

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Individual member companies may indicate performance parameters other than those covered by the tests shown or more stringent limits.

| REQUIREMENT | TEST METHOD | PROPERTIES | UNIT | LIMITS | | | |
|---|--|--|------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | A3/B3-16 | A3/B4-16 | A5/B5-16 | |
| 1. LABORATORY TESTS | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 Viscosity Grades | | Viscosity Class according to SAE J300 - Latest active issue | | No restriction except as defined by HTHS and Shear Stability requirements. Manufacturers may indicate specific Viscosity requirements related to ambient temperature. | | | |
| 1.2 * Shear Stability | CEC L-014-93 or ASTM D6278 or ASTM D7109 | Kinematic Viscosity at 100 °C after 30 cycles | mm ² /s | All grades to be "stay in grade" | | | |
| 1.3.1 HTHS Viscosity | CEC L-036-90 | Dynamic Viscosity at 150 °C and Shear Rate of 10 ⁶ s ⁻¹ | mPa·s | ≥ 3.5 | | ≥ 2.9 & ≤ 3.5 | |
| 1.3.2 * HTHS Viscosity at 100 °C | CEC L-036-90 | Dynamic Viscosity at 100 °C and Shear Rate of 10 ⁶ s ⁻¹ | mPa·s | -- | | Report | |
| 1.4 Evaporative Loss | CEC L-040-93 (Noack) | Max. weight loss after 1 h at 250 °C | % | ≤ 13 | | | |
| 1.5 TBN | ASTM D 2896 | | mgKOH/g | ≥ 8.0 | ≥ 10.0 | ≥ 8.0 | |
| 1.6 * Sulphur | ASTM D5185 | | % m/m | Report | | | |
| 1.7 * Phosphorus | ASTM D5185 | | % m/m | Report | | | |
| 1.8 * Sulphated Ash | ASTM D874 | | % m/m | ≥ 0.9 and ≤ 1.5 | ≥ 1.0 and ≤ 1.6 | ≤ 1.6 | |
| 1.9 Chlorine | ASTM D6443 | | ppm m/m | Report | | | |
| 1.10 * Oil - Elastomer Compatibility | CEC L-112-16 | Max. Variation of Characteristics after immersion for 7 days in Fresh Oil without Pre-Ageing: - Tensile Strength - Elongation at Rupture - Volume Variation | Elastomer % % % | RE6 Report -70/+20 -5.5/+2.1 | RE7 Report -65/+15 -1.8/+8.9 | RE8 Report -51/+9 0.0/+12.0 | RE9 Report -65/+19 -2.5/+16.0 |
| 1.11 Foaming Tendency | ASTM D892 without option A | Tendency - stability | ml | Sequence I (24 °C) 10 – nil Sequence II (94 °C) 50 - nil Sequence III (24 °C) 10 - nil | | | |
| 1.12 High Temperature Foaming Tendency | ASTM D6082 High Temperature foam test | Tendency - stability | ml | Sequence IV (150 °C) 100 – nil | | | |

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| REQUIREMENT | TEST METHOD | PROPERTIES | UNIT | LIMITS | | |
|--|--------------|--|-------|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| | | | | A3/B3-16 | A3/B4-16 | A5/B5-16 |
| 1. LABORATORY TESTS CONTINUED | | | | | | |
| 1.13 Low Temperature Pumpability | CEC L-105-12 | MRV | mPa·s | According to SAE J300 for Fresh Oil | | |
| | | Yield stress (MRV at SAE J300 Temperatures, applicable for the Fresh Oil Viscosity Grade) | Pa | | | |
| 1.14 Oil Oxidation with Biodiesel for Engine Oils operating in the presence of Biodiesel Fuel | CEC L-109-16 | Oil Oxidation at 168h (DIN 51453) | A/cm | ≤ 120 | ≤ 120 | ≤ 100 |
| | | Oil Oxidation at 216h (EOT) (DIN 51453) | A/cm | Report | Report | ≤ 120 |
| | | Viscosity Increase, relative at 168h (Delta KV100) | % | ≤ 150 | ≤ 150 | ≤ 60 |
| | | Viscosity Increase, relative at 216h (Delta KV100 at EOT 216h) | % | Report | Report | ≤ 150 |

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| REQUIREMENT | TEST METHOD | PROPERTIES | UNIT | LIMITS | | |
|---|---|--|--------------------|---------------|----------|----------|
| | | | | A3/B3-16 | A3/B4-16 | A5/B5-16 |
| 2. ENGINE TESTS | | | | | | |
| 2.1 Gasoline DI Engine Cleanliness | CEC L-111-16 (EP6CDT) | Piston Cleanliness | Merit | ≥ RL259 | | |
| | | Turbo Charger Deposits **, average value of zones C, D, E & F | Merit | ≥ 6.0 | | |
| 2.2 * Low Temperature Sludge | ASTM D6593-00 (Sequence VG) Under protocol & requirements for API | Average engine sludge | Merit | ≥ 7.8 | | |
| | | Rocker cover sludge | Merit | ≥ 8.0 | | |
| | | Average Piston skirt varnish | Merit | ≥ 7.5 | | |
| | | Average engine varnish | Merit | ≥ 8.9 | | |
| | | Comp. ring (hot stuck) | | none | | |
| | | Oil screen clogging | % | ≤ 20 | | |
| 2.3 * Valve Train Scuffing Wear | | | | | | |
| 2.4 * Black Sludge | Daimler M271 | Engine Sludge, Average | Merit | ≥ RL140 + 4 σ | | |
| 2.5 * Fuel Economy | CEC L-054-96 (M111) | Fuel Economy Improvement | % | --- | | ≥ 2.5 |
| 2.6 DI Diesel Oil Dispersion at Medium Temperature | CEC L-106-16 (DV6C) | Absolute Viscosity Increase at 100 °C and 5.5 % Soot | mm ² /s | ≤ 0.9 x RL248 | | |
| | | Piston Cleanliness ** | Merit | ≥ 2.5 | | |
| 2.7 Diesel Engine Wear | CEC L-099-08 (OM646LA) | Cam wear outlet (avg. max. wear 8 cams) | µm | ≤ 140 | ≤ 120 | |
| | | Cam wear inlet (avg. max. wear 8 cams) ** | µm | ≤ 110 | ≤ 100 | |
| | | Cylinder wear (avg. 4 cylinders) ** | µm | ≤ 5.0 | ≤ 5.0 | |
| | | Bore polishing (13 mm) ** (max. value of 4 cylinders) | % | ≤ 3.5 | ≤ 3.0 | |
| | | Tappet wear inlet ** (avg. max. wear 8 cams) | µm | Report | Report | |
| | | Tappet wear outlet ** (avg. max. wear 8 cams) | µm | Report | Report | |
| | | Piston cleanliness (avg. 4 pistons) ** | Merit | Report | ≥ 12 | |
| | | Engine sludge average ** | Merit | Report | ≥ 8,8 | |

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| REQUIREMENT | TEST METHOD | PROPERTIES | UNIT | LIMITS | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| | | | | A3/B3-16 | A3/B4-16 | A5/B5-16 |
| 2. ENGINE TESTS CONTINUED | | | | | | |
| 2.8 * DI Diesel Piston Cleanliness & Ring Sticking | CEC L-078-99 (VW TDI) | Piston Cleanliness | Merit | ≥ RL206 minus 4 points | ≥ RL206 | ≥ RL206 |
| | | Ring sticking (Rings 1 & 2) | | | | |
| | | Average of all 8 rings | ASF | ≤ 1.2 | ≤ 1.0 | ≤ 1.0 |
| | | Max. for any 1 st ring | ASF | ≤ 2.5 | ≤ 1.0 | ≤ 1.0 |
| | | Max. for any 2 nd ring | ASF | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| EOT TBN (ISO 3771) ** | mgKOH/g | ≥ 4.0 | ≥ 6.0 | ≥ 4.0 | | |
| EOT TAN (ASTM D664) ** | mgKOH/g | Report | Report | Report | | |
| 2.9 Effects of Biodiesel | CEC L-104-16 (OM646LA Bio) | Piston Cleanliness | Merit | | ≥ RL255 + 2 | |
| | | Ring Sticking ** | ASF | | Report | |
| | | Sludge ** | Merit | | Report | |

*/**: Footnote information see last page of the C-Categories.

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| REQUIREMENT | TEST METHOD | PROPERTIES | UNIT | LIMITS | | | | |
|---|--|--|------------------------------|---|---|--|--|------------------|
| | | | | C1-16 | C2-16 | C3-16 | C4-16 | C5-16 |
| 1. LABORATORY TESTS | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 Viscosity Grades | | Viscosity Class according to SAE J300 - Latest active issue | | No restriction except as defined by HTHS and Shear Stability requirements. Manufacturers may indicate specific Viscosity requirements related to ambient temperature. | | | | |
| 1.2* Shear Stability | CEC L-014-93 or ASTM D6278 or ASTM D7109 | Kinematic Viscosity at 100 °C after 30 cycles | mm ² /s | All grades to be "stay in grade" | | | | |
| 1.3.1 HTHS Viscosity | CEC L-036-90 | Dynamic Viscosity at 150 °C and Shear Rate of 10 ⁶ s ⁻¹ | mPa·s | ≥ 2.9 | | ≥ 3.5 | | ≥ 2.6 & < 2.9 |
| 1.3.2 * HTHS Viscosity at 100 °C | CEC L-036-90 | Dynamic Viscosity at 100 °C and Shear Rate of 10 ⁶ s ⁻¹ | mPa·s | Report | | Report | | Report |
| 1.4 Evaporative loss | CEC L-040-93 (Noack) | Max. weight loss after 1 h at 250 °C | % | ≤ 13 | | | ≤ 11 | ≤ 13 |
| 1.5 TBN | ASTM D2896 | | mgKOH/g | --- | | ≥ 6.0 | ≥ 6.0 | ≥ 6.0 |
| 1.6 * Sulphur | ASTM D5185 | | % m/m | ≤ 0.2 | ≤ 0.3 | | ≤ 0.2 | ≤ 0.3 |
| 1.7 * Phosphorus | ASTM D5185 | | % m/m | ≤ 0.05 | ≥ 0.07 ≤ 0.09 | ≥ 0.07 ≤ 0.09 | ≤ 0.09 | ≥ 0.07 ≤ 0.09 |
| 1.8 * Sulphated Ash | ASTM D874 | | % m/m | ≤ 0.5 | ≤ 0.8 | | ≤ 0.5 | ≤ 0.8 |
| 1.9 Chlorine | ASTM D6443 | | ppm m/m | Report | | | | |
| 1.10 * Oil - Elastomer Compatibility | CEC L-112-16 | Max. Variation of Characteristics after immersion for 7 days in Fresh Oil without Pre-Ageing: - Tensile Strength - Elongation at Rupture - Volume Variation | Elastomer % % % | RE6 Report -70/+20 -5.5/+2.1 | RE7 Report -65/+15 -1.8/+8.9 | RE8 Report -51/+9 0.0/+12.0 | RE9 Report -65/+19 -2.5/+16.0 | |
| 1.11 Foaming Tendency | ASTM D892 without option A | Tendency - stability | ml | Sequence I (24 °C) 10 - nil Sequence II (94 °C) 50 - nil Sequence III (24 °C) 10 - nil | | | | |
| 1.12 High Temperature Foaming Tendency | ASTM D6082 High Temperature Foam Test | Tendency - stability | ml | Sequence IV (150 °C) 100 - nil | | | | |

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| REQUIREMENT | TEST METHOD | PROPERTIES | UNIT | LIMITS | | | | |
|--|--------------|---|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | | | C1-16 | C2-16 | C3-16 | C4-16 | C5-16 |
| 1. LABORATORY TESTS CONTINUED | | | | | | | | |
| 1.13 Low Temperature Pumpability | CEC L-105-12 | MRV Yield stress (MRV at SAE J300 Temperatures, applicable for the Fresh Oil Viscosity Grade) | mPa·s Pa | According to SAE J300 for Fresh Oil | | | | |
| 1.14 Oil Oxidation with Biodiesel for Engine Oils operating in the presence of Biodiesel Fuel | CEC L-109-16 | Oil Oxidation at 168 h (DIN 51453) | A/cm | ≤ 100 | ≤ 100 | ≤ 100 | ≤ 100 | ≤ 100 |
| | | Oil Oxidation at 216 h (EOT) (DIN 51453) | A/cm | ≤ 120 | ≤ 120 | ≤ 120 | ≤ 120 | ≤ 120 |
| | | Viscosity Increase, relative at 168 h (Delta KV100) | % | ≤ 60 | ≤ 60 | ≤ 60 | ≤ 60 | ≤ 60 |
| | | Viscosity Increase, relative at 216 h (Delta KV100 at EOT 216 h) | % | ≤ 150 | ≤ 150 | ≤ 150 | ≤ 150 | ≤ 150 |

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Individual member companies may indicate performance parameters other than those covered by the tests shown or more stringent limits.

| REQUIREMENT | TEST METHOD | PROPERTIES | UNIT | LIMITS | | | | |
|---|---|--|--------------------|---------------|--------|--|-------|--------|
| | | | | C1-16 | C2-16 | C3-16 | C4-16 | C5-16 |
| 2. ENGINE TESTS | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1 Gasoline DI Engine Cleanliness | CEC L-111-16 (EP6CDT) | Piston Cleanliness | Merit | ≥ RL259 | | | | |
| | | Turbo Charger Deposits **, average value of zones C, D, E & F | Merit | ≥ 6.0 | | | | |
| 2.2 * Low Temperature Sludge | ASTM D6593-00 (Sequence VG) Under protocol & requirements for API | Average engine sludge | Merit | ≥ 7.8 | | | | |
| | | Rocker cover sludge | Merit | ≥ 8.0 | | | | |
| | | Average Piston skirt varnish | Merit | ≥ 7.5 | | | | |
| | | Average engine varnish | Merit | ≥ 8.9 | | | | |
| | | Comp. ring (hot stuck) | | none | | | | |
| | | Oil screen clogging | % | ≤ 20 | | | | |
| 2.3 * Valve Train Scuffing Wear | | | | | | | | |
| 2.4 * Black Sludge | Daimler M271 | Engine Sludge, Average | Merit | ≥ RL140 + 4 σ | | | | |
| 2.5 * Fuel Economy | CEC L-054-96 (M111) | Fuel Economy Improvement | % | ≥ 3.0 | ≥ 2.5 | ≥ 1.0 (for xW-30 only, no limit for xW-40) | | ≥ 3.0 |
| 2.6 DI Diesel Oil Dispersion at Medium Temperature | CEC L-106-16 (DV6C) | Absolute Viscosity Increase at 100 °C and 5.5 % Soot | mm ² /s | ≤ 0.9 x RL248 | | | | |
| | | Piston Cleanliness ** | Merit | ≥ 2.5 | | | | |
| 2.7 Diesel Engine Wear | CEC L-099-08 (OM646LA) | Cam wear outlet (avg. max. wear 8 cams) | µm | ≤ 120 | ≤ 120 | ≤ 120 | | ≤ 120 |
| | | Cam wear inlet (avg. max. wear 8 cams) ** | µm | ≤ 100 | ≤ 100 | ≤ 100 | | ≤ 100 |
| | | Cylinder wear (avg. 4 cylinders) ** | µm | ≤ 5.0 | ≤ 5.0 | ≤ 5.0 | | ≤ 5.0 |
| | | Bore polishing (13 mm) ** (max. value of 4 cylinders) | % | ≤ 3.0 | ≤ 3.0 | ≤ 3.0 | | ≤ 3.0 |
| | | Tappet wear inlet ** (avg. max. wear 8 cams) | µm | Report | Report | Report | | Report |
| | | Tappet wear outlet ** (avg. max. wear 8 cams) | µm | Report | Report | Report | | Report |
| | | Piston cleanliness (avg. 4 pistons) ** | Merit | Report | Report | ≥ 12 | | ≥ 12 |
| | | Engine sludge average ** | Merit | Report | Report | ≥ 8,8 | | ≥ 8,8 |

This sequence defines the minimum quality level of a product for self-certification to EELQMS and for presentation to ACEA members.
Individual member companies may indicate performance parameters other than those covered by the tests shown or more stringent limits.

| REQUIREMENT | TEST METHOD | PROPERTIES | UNIT | LIMITS | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | | | C1-16 | C2-16 | C3-16 | C4-16 | C5-16 |
| 2. ENGINE TESTS CONTINUED | | | | | | | | |
| 2.8 * DI Diesel Piston Cleanliness & Ring Sticking | CEC L-078-99 (VW TDI) | Piston cleanliness | Merit | ≥ RL206 | ≥ RL206 | ≥ RL206 | ≥ RL206 | ≥ RL206 |
| | | Ring sticking (Rings 1 & 2) | | | | | | |
| | | Average of all 8 rings | ASF | ≤ 1.0 | ≤ 1.2 | ≤ 1.0 | ≤ 1.0 | ≤ 1.0 |
| | | Max. for any 1 st ring | ASF | ≤ 1.0 | ≤ 2.5 | ≤ 1.0 | ≤ 1.0 | ≤ 1.0 |
| | | Max. for any 2 nd ring | ASF | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| | | EOT TBN (ISO 3771) ** | mgKOH/g | Report | Report | Report | Report | Report |
| EOT TAN (ASTM D 664) ** | mgKOH/g | Report | Report | Report | Report | Report | | |
| 2.9 Effects of Biodiesel | CEC L-104-16 (OM646LA Bio) | Piston Cleanliness | Merit | ≥ RL255 + 2 | | | | |
| | | Ring Sticking ** | ASF | Report | | | | |
| | | Sludge ** | Merit | Report | | | | |

****: Footnotes referring to the following Requirements in the A-/B- and C-Classes:**

- No. 1.2 Referring to the latest Version of the SAE J300 the minimum Viscosity for xW-20 Oils after Shearing is 6.9 cSt
- No. 1.3.2 The CEC-L036-90 method is not yet approved for the parameter HTHS at 100 °C.
- No. 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 Maximum limits, Values take into account method and production tolerances
- No. 1.6, 1.7 Internal standard method must be used.
- No. 1.10 For Categories A3/B3, A3/B4, A5/B5 and C1, C2, C3, C4: Available Test data from the Predecessor-Test CEC L-039-96 may be used for ACEA 2016 instead of CEC L-112-16 under the condition that a Full L-039 Data set including RE1, RE2, RE3 & RE4 + the Daimler DBL-AEM (requirements as specified by Daimler AG), provided the requirements as specified in ACEA 2012 are met.
- No. 2.1, 2.6 ... 2.9 ** Parameter is not an official CEC Parameter
- No. 2.2 The limits shown are based on those applied in U.S. market requirements. ACEA will continuously review the situation to ensure that these limits are appropriate for European vehicles and lubricants.
Once the successor Test Seq. VH, which is currently still under development, is fully ASTM approved, the Seq. VH may be run with Limits officially communicated by ACEA.
- No. 2.3 The CEC L-038-94 (TU3M) Test was removed from these Oil Sequences since hardware will run out in early 2017. However, in order to assure/support Wear Protection although TU3 is removed, ACEA intends to introduce the ASTM Seq. IVB Test as a TU3-Successor regarding valve train wear with the next Oil Sequences Revision, with Limits for Seq. IVB then to be defined based on ILSAC Spec.
- No. 2.4 Until the new CEC Test Method L-107 is fully developed, the Gasoline Sludge Protection Performance of Engine Oil Formulations must be proven by the M271 Sludge Test procedure as described by Daimler AG. Test results obtained by the M271 procedure will be accepted only under the condition that they come from Test Rigs being referenced and quality controlled by Daimler AG. Limits are based on the same Reference Oil as with the old M111 Sludge Test.
Once the L-107 Procedure is fully CEC-approved, the L-107 may be used, with limits officially communicated by ACEA.
- No. 2.8 * Test Report must give measured values before & after the test, all measurements to be taken in the same lab.
Note: EOT TAN is considered to become performance criteria in the future. Any test run prior to the publication of the ACEA 2012 Oil Sequences can be used whether or not it has data for EOT TAN.

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| REQUIREMENTS | TEST METHOD | PROPERTIES | UNIT | LIMITS | | | |
|---|--|--|--------------------|---|---------------|---------|-----------------|
| | | | | E4-16 | E6-16 | E7-16 | E9-16 |
| 1. LABORATORY TESTS | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 Viscosity | | SAE J300 Latest Active Issue | | No restriction except as defined by shear stability and HTHS requirements. Manufacturers may indicate specific viscosity requirements related to ambient temperature. | | | |
| 1.2 Shear stability | CEC L-014-93 or ASTM D6278 or ASTM D7109 | Kinematic Viscosity at 100 °C after 30 cycles | mm ² /s | Stay in grade | | | |
| | ASTM D7109 | Kinematic Viscosity at 100 °C after 90 cycles | mm ² /s | | Stay in grade | | |
| 1.3 HTHS Viscosity | CEC L-036-90 | Dynamic Viscosity at 150 °C and Shear Rate of 10 ⁶ s ⁻¹ | mPa·s | ≥ 3.5 | | | |
| | | Dynamic Viscosity at 100 °C and Shear Rate of 10 ⁶ s ⁻¹ | mPa·s | Report | | | |
| 1.4 Evaporative Loss | CEC L-040-93 (Noack) | Max. weight loss after 1 h at 250 °C | % | ≤ 13 | | | |
| 1.5 Sulphated Ash | ASTM D874 | | % m/m | ≤ 2.0 | ≤ 1.0 | ≤ 2.0 | ≤ 1.0 |
| 1.6 Phosphorus | ASTM D5185 | | % m/m | | ≤ 0.08 | | ≤ 0.12 |
| 1.7 Sulphur | ASTM D5185 | | % m/m | | ≤ 0.3 | | ≤ 0.4 |
| 1.8 * Oil / Elastomer Compatibility | CEC L-112-16 | Max. variation of characteristics after immersion for 7 days in fresh oil without pre-ageing | | RE6 | RE7 | RE8 | RE9 |
| | | - Tensile Strength | % | Report | Report | Report | Report |
| | | - Elongation at Break | % | -70/+20 | -65/+15 | -51/+9 | -65/+19 |
| | | - Volume Change | % | -5.5/+2.1 | -1.8/+8.9 | 0.0/+12 | -2.5/16 |
| 1.9 Foaming Tendency | ASTM D892 without option A | Tendency – stability | ml | Sequence I (24 °C) 10 – nil | | | Seq I 10/0 |
| | | | ml | Sequence II (94 °C) 50 – nil | | | Seq II 20/0 |
| | | | ml | Sequence III (24 °C) 10 – nil | | | Seq III 10/0 |
| 1.10 High Temperature Foaming Tendency | ASTM D6082 | Tendency - stability | ml | Sequence IV (150 °C) 200-50 | | | |
| 1.11 Oxidation | CEC L-085-99 (PDSC) | Oxidation induction time | min. | ≥ 65 | | | |
| 1.12 Corrosion | ASTM D 6594 | Copper increase | ppm | Report | | Report | ≤ 20 |
| | | Lead increase | ppm | Report | | ≤ 100 | ≤ 100 |
| | | Copper strip rating | max | Report | | Report | 3 |
| 1.13 * TBN | ASTM D2896 | | mg KOH/g | ≥12 | ≥ 7 | ≥ 9 | ≥7 |
| 1.14 Low Temperature Pumpability | CEC L-105-12 | MRV Yield stress (MRV at SAE J300 Temperatures applicable for the fresh oil viscosity grade) | mPa·s Pa | According to SAE J300 for fresh oil | | | |
| 1.15 Oil Oxidation with Biodiesel | CEC L-109-16 | Oxidation increase after 168 h | A/cm | ≤ 90 | ≤ 80 | ≤ 120 | ≤ 90 |
| | | KV100 increase after 168 h | % | ≤ 130 | ≤ 130 | ≤ 300 | ≤ 150 |

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This sequence defines the minimum quality level of a product for self-certification to EELQMS and for presentation to ACEA members.
Individual member companies may indicate performance parameters other than those covered by the tests shown or more stringent limits.

| REQUIREMENTS | TEST METHOD | PROPERTIES | UNIT | LIMITS | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--|---------|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | | | E4-16 | E6-16 | E7-16 | E9-16 |
| 2. ENGINE TESTS | | | | | | | |
| 2.1 Wear | CEC L-099-08 (OM646LA) | Cam wear outlet (avg. max. wear 8 cams) | µm | ≤ 140 | ≤ 140 | ≤ 155 | ≤ 155 |
| 2.2 * Soot in Oil | ASTM D 5967 (Mack T-8E) | Test duration 300 h Relative viscosity at 4.8% soot and 50% shear loss 1 test/2 test/3 test average | | ≤ 2.1/2.2/2.3 | ≤ 2.1/2.2/2.3 | ≤ 2.1/2.2/2.3 | ≤ 2.1/2.2/2.3 |
| 2.3 * Bore Polishing Piston Cleanliness | CEC L-101-08 (OM501LA) | Piston cleanliness, average | Merit | ≥ 26 | ≥ 26 | ≥ 17 | ≥ 17 |
| | | Bore polishing, average ** | % | ≤ 1.0 | ≤ 1.0 | ≤ 2.0 | ≤ 2.0 |
| | | Oil consumption ** | kg/Test | ≤ 9 | ≤ 9 | ≤ 9 | ≤ 9 |
| | | Engine sludge, average ** | Merit | Report | Report | Report | Report |
| 2.4 * Soot Induced Wear | ASTM D7468 (Cummins ISM) | Merit | | | | | ≥ 1000 |
| | | Crosshead, weight loss 1 test/2 test/3 test average | mg | | | ≤ 7.5/7.8/7.9 | ≤ 7.1 |
| | | Oil Filter Diff. Press at 150h 1 test/ 2 test/3 test average | kPa | | | ≤ 55/67/74 | ≤ 19 |
| | | Engine sludge 1 test/2 test/3 test average | Merit | | | ≥ 8.1/8.0/8.0 | ≥ 8.7 |
| | | Adj. screw weight loss | mg | | | | ≤ 49 |
| 2.5 * Wear (liner-ring- bearings) | ASTM D7422 (Mack T12) | Merit | | | ≥ 1000 | ≥ 1000 | ≥ 1000 |
| | | Cylinder liner wear (CLW) | µm | | ≤ 26 | ≤ 26 | ≤ 24 |
| | | Top ring weight loss (TRWL) | mg | | ≤ 117 | ≤ 117 | ≤ 105 |
| | | End of test lead | ppm | | ≤ 42 | ≤ 42 | ≤ 35 |
| | | Delta lead 250-300 hrs | ppm | | ≤ 18 | ≤ 18 | ≤ 15 |
| | | Oil consumption (Phase II) | g/hr | | ≤ 95 | ≤ 95 | ≤ 85 |
| 2.6 Biofuel Impacted Piston Cleanliness and Engine Sludge | CEC L-104-16 (OM646LA Bio) | Piston cleanliness, average | Merit | | ≥ RL255 + 4 | | ≥ RL255 + 2 |
| | | Ring sticking ** | ASF | | Report | | Report |
| | | Engine sludge, average ** | Merit | | Report | | Report |

***/**: Footnotes referring to the following requirements in the E-Class:**

- No. 1.8 Full Data sets being obtained on CEC L-039-96 + the Daimler requirements for DBL-AEM as specified by Daimler AG can be used instead of CEC L-112-16, provided the requirements as specified in ACEA 2012 are met.
- No. 1.13 For E7, values < 9.00 are not accepted.
- No. 2.2 Mack T11 results obtained as part of an API CI-4, CI-4 plus, CJ-4, CK-4 or FA-4 approval program, can be used in place of Mack T8E.
- No. 2.3, 2.6 ** Not CEC approved parameters.
- No. 2.4 Merit number shall be calculated according to the API CI-4 specification
- No. 2.5 For E6 & E7 Merit number shall be calculated according to the API CI-4 specification.
For E6 & E7 Mack T10 results obtained as part of an API CI-4 or CI-4 plus approval program, can be used in place of Mack T12.
Mack T-12 Cylinder Liner Wear and Top Ring Weight Loss results obtained as part of an API CK-4 or FA-4 approval program, which includes a passing Volvo T-13 at the API CK-4 or API FA-4 level, may be used to satisfy the requirements of the Mack T-12 in the ACEA Oil Sequences.