

Press Release

ATIEL welcomes the release of the new ACEA Light-Duty Sequences, ensuring industry Lubricant specifications offer robust protection for the latest engines.

6 May 2021

Since their introduction in 1996 the ACEA Oil Sequences have been updated periodically to ensure that engine oils are able to meet the ever-changing requirements of the latest engine technologies. For the first time, ACEA 2021 has separated the Light Duty and Heavy Duty Oil Sequences to allow a more flexible approach to updating the specifications.

ACEA 2021 updates the Light-Duty Sequences to replace old engine tests that have reached the end of life, to allow a continuation of the engine oil development process for vehicles already in market. The new tests run on more up to date engine hardware but allow oil marketers to continue to supply oils with proven field performance. The two new Categories published in ACEA 2021 introduce several new performance parameters and give oil marketers an opportunity to demonstrate the performance of their lubricants in the most modern vehicle technology.

The two new Categories, C6 and A7/B7, for the first time introduce LSPI, timing chain wear and diesel turbocharger performance limits into the ACEA Sequences, and C6 includes a new fuel economy test. Whilst many lubricants already exceed OEM requirements for these parameters, including them in ACEA 2021 gives the industry a sound baseline to ensure lubricants perform in the latest engines. The addition of tests from both API (the LSPI and chain wear test) and JASO (the new fuel economy test for C6) helps to increase the global applicability of the ACEA Sequences, as well as giving oil developers the confidence of running test programs in well-established engine tests.

ATIEL contributed significantly in collaboration with ACEA and ATC (the European additive manufacturers association) to ensure the release of the new ACEA Light-Duty Sequences is a positive outcome serving all automotive industry stakeholders, and particularly for consumers. The current European system provides a framework to engage on existing and emerging technical issues and trends impacting engine design and use, and their potential effects on lubricant performance and formulation. The good cooperation between ACEA, ATIEL and ATC underlines the value of developing specifications that take into account the needs of both vehicle hardware and lubricant technology, to allow the right quality lubricants to become widely available across the market.

ATIEL (the Technical Association of the European Lubricants Industry) is a non-for-profit association under Belgian law (association sans but lucratif-ASBL).

For the last 25 years, the industry has proudly acted as the voice of the lubricant industry, using its members' collective expertise to push the boundaries of engine oil innovation to the benefit of vehicle manufacturers, consumers, and the environment. (https://atiel.eu/industry-liaison/)

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