



## **ATIEL Position statement on the use of non CEC or ASTM tests in the ACEA Oil Sequences**

ATIEL recognises that some current engine tests in the ACEA sequences will become obsolete in the near future and that replacement engine tests have not been offered via CEC or ASTM.

ATIEL has therefore reviewed with its legal counsel its position on the use of non CEC or ASTM test in the ACEA Sequences and can accept these tests into the Sequences if the following conditions can be met:

1. The test method is adequate and proportionate.
2. Available at reasonable cost.
3. Accessible on non-discriminatory terms to all lubricant marketers.
4. Universally available to test laboratories.
5. Meets the quality criteria defined in the Code of Practice.

For item 4, the test has to be made available to any test laboratory wanting to install the test to avoid issues with competition law. It is important that there is sufficient test capacity, compared with the test hours and the time in advance of new specification being published, to allow all marketers and additive companies to test their formulations sufficiently. Having more labs available to run the test will also help with developing test precision guidelines.

For item 5, as EELQMS is the only quality system that can be used to support claims against the ACEA European Oil Sequences specifications, it needs to be ensured that such tests meet the requirements of EELQMS (this is a requirement in the ACEA Sequences). This requires that these engine tests are conducted at appropriate accredited test laboratories and are registered in accordance with the requirements in the ATC and ATIEL Codes of Practice.

ATIEL also considers that such tests have the required precision and discrimination to meet stakeholder needs when qualifying against the ACEA Sequences and that test limits and safety limits (where needed) are appropriate.