

WHAT IS API?

EXPLANATION

- Established in March 1919
- American Petroleum Institute, based in Washington D.C. USA with offices in 21 US states
- It's the only US trade association representing all areas of the natural gas & oil industry
- 625+ members range from small independent companies to the largest US companies and includes producers, refiners, suppliers, pipeline operators & marine transporters
- API standardized industry programs are recognized world wide

PURPOSE

- Promote operating & environmental safety across the industry on a global basis
- Develop standardization for petroleum, natural gas & petrochemical equipment operations
- Works with OEMs to set vehicle & equipment performance specifications & requirements
- Maintain ~700 standards & recommended practices covering all segments of the oil & gas industry
- Collect, maintain & publish timely industry statistics and identify industry trends
- Encourage both foreign & domestic trade in American petroleum products
- Provide training to member companies
- Lobbies the US government & regulatory entities on behalf of industry members
- API activities support 10.3 million US jobs and almost 8% of the US economy

ACTIVITIES SPECIFIC TO OILS IN THE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE

- Conducts 1000+ tests each year on retail & bulk oils for quality compliance & consumer protection
- Products that fail bench testing could face fines & risk cancellation of their API license
- Recent year testing of light duty oils: 18% of bottles and 50% of bulk had deficiencies or failed
- Recent year testing of heavy duty oils: 14% of bottles and 22% of bulk had deficiencies or failed
- 85% of those test samples were from North America
- 15% of those test samples came from Asia, Middle East, Europe, Central & South America
- Licenses over 12,000 engine oil products world-wide and only products with current API licenses are allowed to use the donut and starburst on product labels
- Provides member companies & consumers basic & advanced information covering all oil types, explanation of oil specifications & requirements, plus proper use & recommendations

