



Test Monitoring Center

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Overview of the ASTM Test Monitoring Center

The ASTM Test Monitoring Center (TMC) monitors ASTM test methods used to establish performance and quality of automotive lubricants. These tests are conducted by oil marketers and independent laboratories in North America as well as in other parts of the world.

Test Laboratories periodically calibrate their test apparatus using TMC reference oils. These special oils, which have known performance characteristics, are distributed to the laboratories from the TMC's reference oil warehouse at Carnegie Mellon University. The TMC also maintains an analytical lab to ensure the quality and consistency of the reference oils.

Center engineers visit and inspect each lab at least once a year. The center maintains formal documentation of all reference oil test results. Statistical quality control charts are used to evaluate the accuracy and precision of reference oil test results for individual test stands, individual laboratories, and the industry as a whole. Through the careful review and analysis of reference oil test results, the TMC helps ensure a reliable, consistent approach to the testing of commercial products.

The Center also provides test registration services to the American Chemistry Council and European ATC.

For more information on the TMC consult [SAE paper 2000-01-2946](#) or contact [Frank Farber](#).