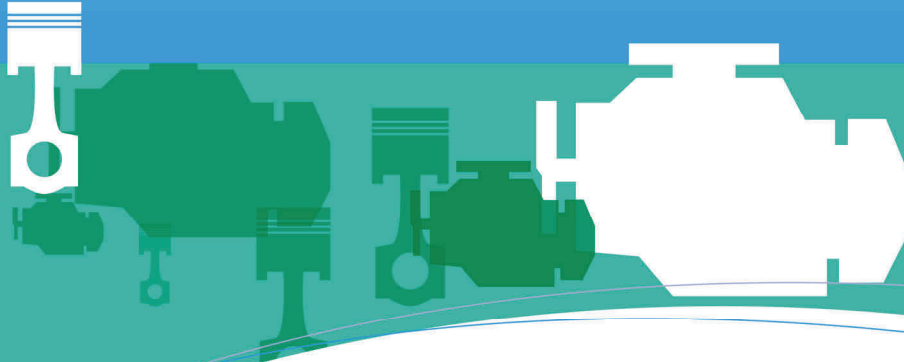


Lubricant base stocks



InfineumInsight.com/Learn



Outline

- What are base stocks?
 - Why are base stock important?
 - Composition of base stocks
- Refining processes
 - Overview
 - Major base stock types
 - Solvent Extraction (SE)
 - Hydrocracking (HC)
 - Synthetics
 - Others
- API base oil groups
- Names and definitions
- Measurements and typical targets
- Recent trends



Lubricant base stocks

- A lubricant component
 - Roughly 80-99+% of petroleum products
 - Usually doesn't have all required properties – needs additive enhancement
- Mineral oil base stocks
 - Refined from crude oil
 - Petroleum = "Petra-oleum" = "Rock Oil"
 - Common processes
 - Solvent extraction
 - Separate "good" from "bad" molecules
 - Hydrocracking
 - Convert "bad" molecules into "good" molecules
 - Synthesis
 - "Built" from chemical reactions
- Animal and vegetable oils also used

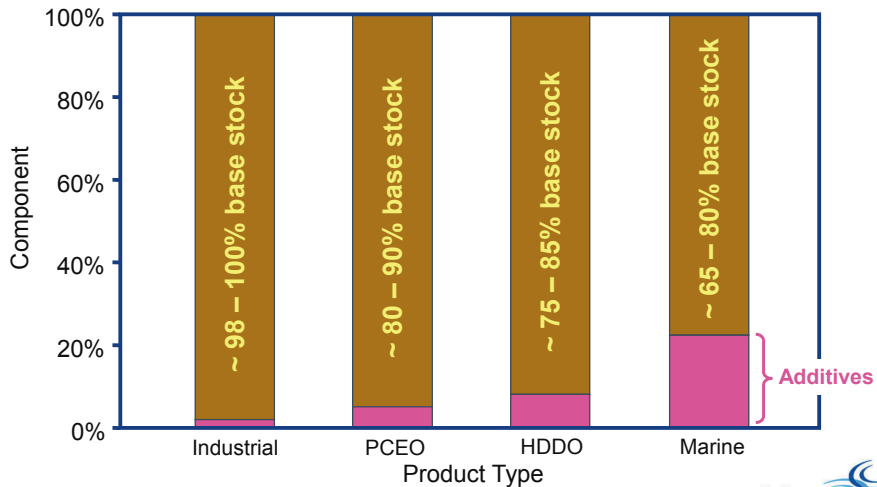
Found in minerals,
not made of minerals

Most of the starting
materials come
from crude oil



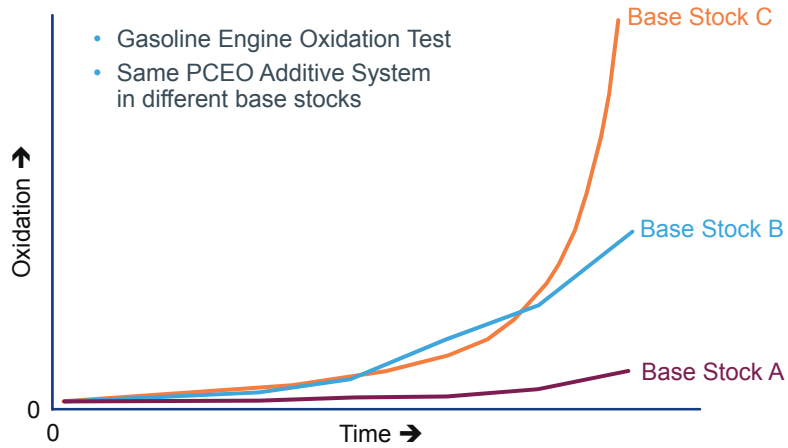
Why are base stocks important?

1. They are the major component in lubricants



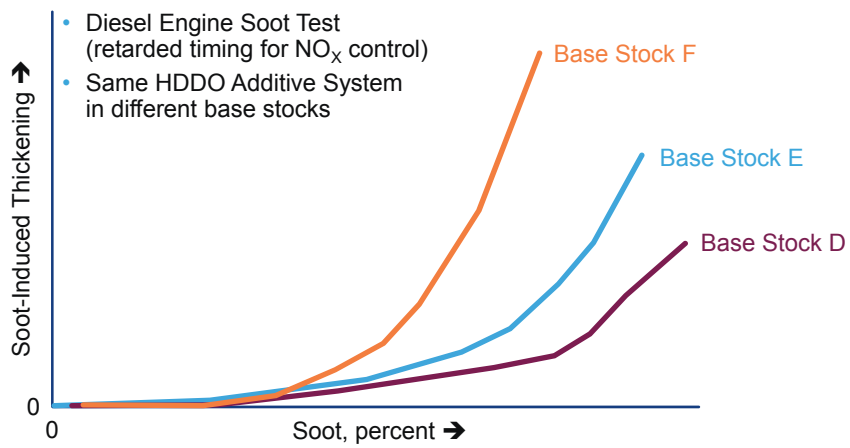
Why are base stocks important?

2. They have a major effect on performance (oxidation)



Why are base stocks important?

3. They have a major effect on performance (soot-handling)



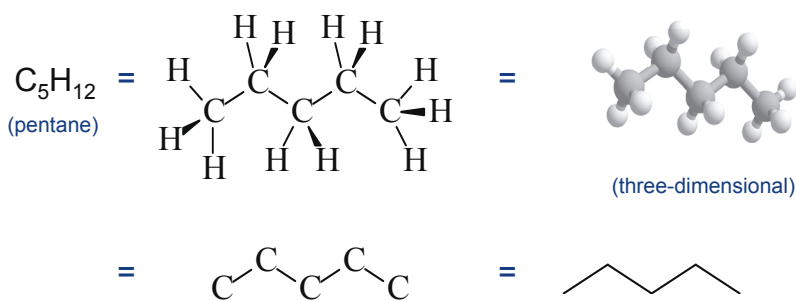
Lubricant properties affected by base stocks

- Viscometrics
 - SAE viscosity grade (e.g., SAE 5W-30)
 - Pour point and low temperature fluidity
 - Fuel economy
 - Wear protection
- Oxidation
 - Viscosity increase
 - Acid formation, that leads to corrosion
 - Deposit control
- Dispersancy and solvency
 - Soot control (HDD)
 - Viscosity increase and filter plugging
 - Sludge
 - Deposit control
- Foaming and air entrainment
- Volatility (evaporation)
 - Oil Consumption and Flash Point



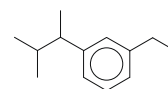
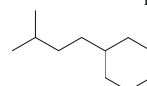
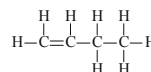
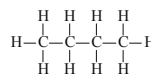
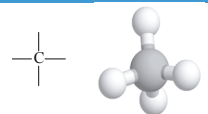
What are base stocks?

- Base stocks are primarily hydrocarbons
 - Hydrocarbon = molecule containing hydrogen and carbon
 - Sometimes generalized to molecules with other elements
- Equivalent chemical symbols:



Chemical bonds and terminology

- Carbon likes to have four bonds
 - In three dimensions
- Carbon can form chains (straight or branched)
 - Hydrogen fills in the remaining four spaces
 - All positions filled → relatively unreactive
 - **Saturated** (paraffin)
- If there's a missing place, a double bond forms
 - Prefer to fill the spaces → more reactive; e.g., oxidation
 - **Unsaturated** = missing spaces
- Ring structures (saturated)
 - Six-membered rings are common, but others are possible
 - **Naphthene** (cyclo-alkanes)
- Six-membered rings with three double bonds
 - Lots of empty space → reactive
 - **Aromatic**

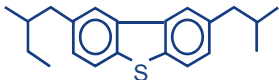
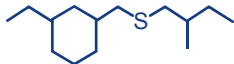
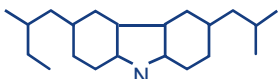
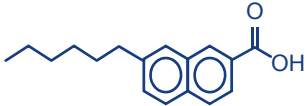


Base stock molecules – hydrocarbons

Type	Structure	Properties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paraffins (no rings) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Straight chain 		Very high VI (~175) Excellent oxidation Very high pour point
<div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle; text-align: center;"> <div style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; transform: rotate(-90deg); font-weight: bold;">Best lube molecules</div> <div style="font-size: 2em; color: orange;">➔</div> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paraffins (no rings) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Branched chain 		High VI (~100-150) Good oxidation Medium pour point
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naphthenes (saturated rings) 		Medium VI (~60-110) Poor oxidation Low pour point
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aromatics (unsaturated rings) 		Low VI (<60) Very poor oxidation Low pour point

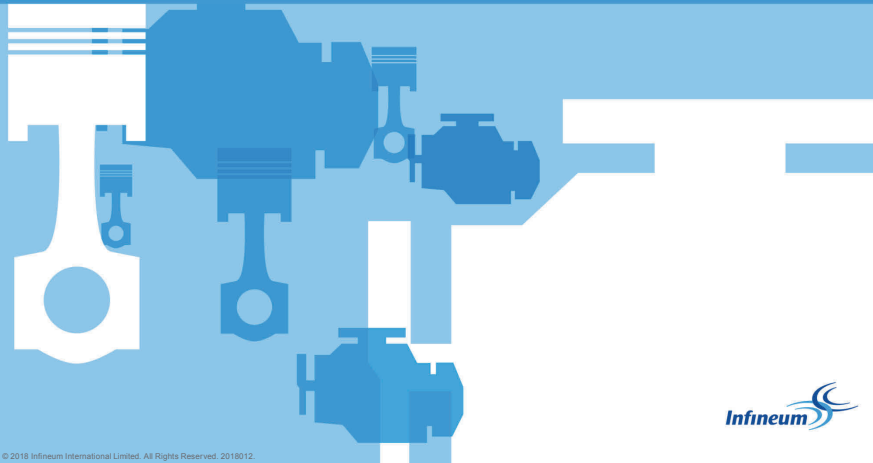


Base stock molecules – polars

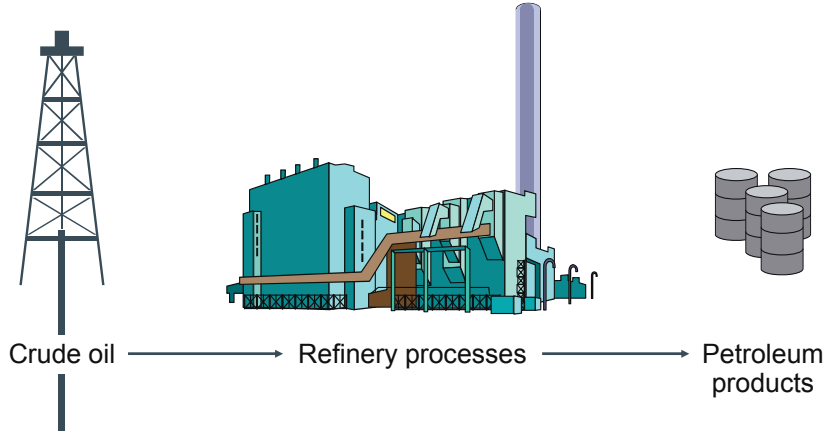
Type	Structure	Properties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sulfur <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dibenzothiophene 		Antioxidant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dialkylsulfide 		Corrosive
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nitrogen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alkylhydrocarbazole 		Mild pro-oxidant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oxygen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> β-naphthenoic acid 		Usually not in base stock (formed during oxidation)



Base stock refining



Refinery overview



Crude oil

- Crude oil is a mixture of thousands of different molecules
 - Some are **GOOD** for lubricants – some are **BAD** for lubricants
- Various classifications
 - “Light” vs. “Heavy”
 - “Sweet” vs. Sour
 - Paraffinic vs. Naphthenic vs. Aromatic

As defined on earlier pages

Viscosity

Sulfur content

	Sweet	Sour
Light	West Texas Intermediate (WTI) Brent (North Sea)	Light-Sour Blend (Canada) Arabian Extra Light
Heavy	Cano Limon (Colombia) Minas (Indonesia)	Maya Heavy (Mexico) Merey (Venezuela)



Refining in a nutshell

- Start
 - Crude oil
 - Mixtures of **GOOD** and **BAD** molecules
- Goal
 - **REDUCE** the Proportion of **BAD** molecules
 - **INCREASE** the Proportion of **GOOD** molecules
- How Do They Do That?
 - Refining
 - Separation
 - Remove the **BAD** molecules
 - Throw them away?
 - Use them for something else!
 - Conversion
 - Change **BAD** molecules into **GOOD** molecules
 - Synthesis
 - Build **GOOD** molecules from small ones

Solvent Extraction

Hydrocracking

Synthetics



Base stock refinery process overview

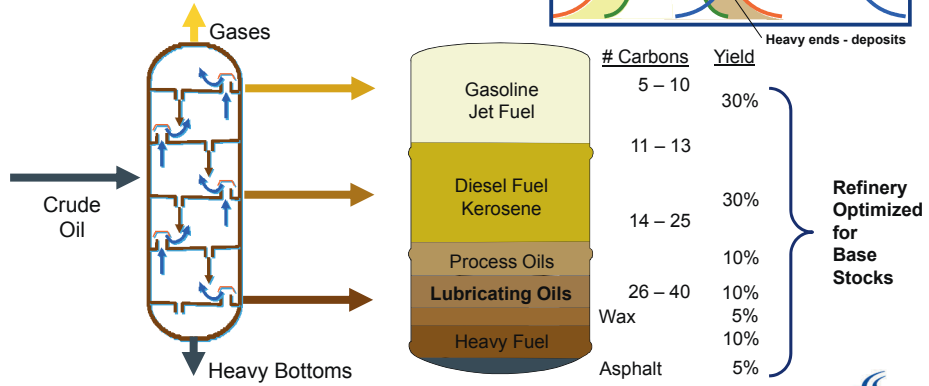
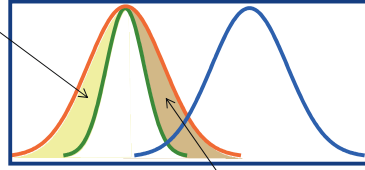
- De-salting
 - To avoid corrosion in refinery units
- Distillation
 - Separates lighter from heavier fractions
 - Selects viscosity “cut” and controls volatility (evaporation)
 - Also used at end as a “clean-up” step
- Major Base Stock Refining Process
 - Solvent Extraction
 - Hydrocracking
- De-asphalting
 - Removes asphaltenes (heavy aromatics)
- Dewaxing
 - Removes wax and improves low temperature properties
 - Either solvent dewaxing or catalytic dewaxing or catalytic iso-dewaxing
- Processes are combined to create refinery ‘schemes’ →
 - Optimized based on crude source and refinery assets



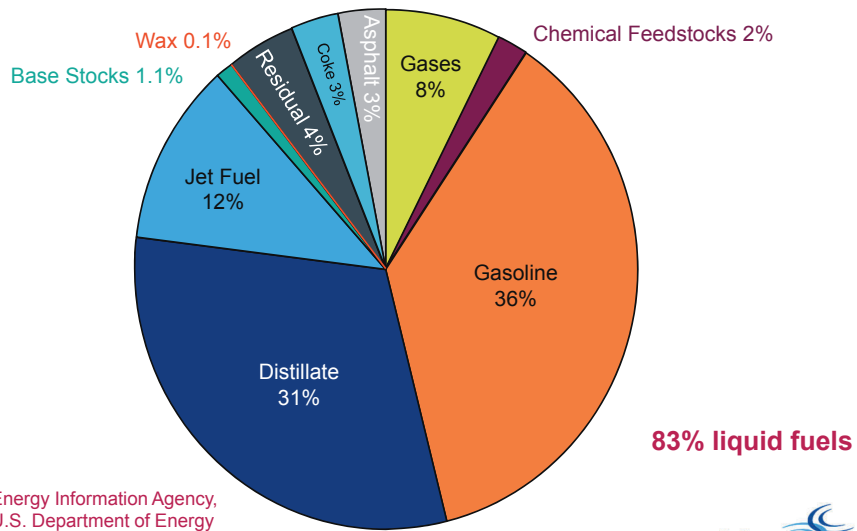
Major base stock refinery processes

- Distillation
 - Separates **lighter** from **heavier** fractions
 - Selects viscosity 'cut' →
 - Controls **volatility** (evaporation) →

Light ends - volatility



U.S. refinery yields

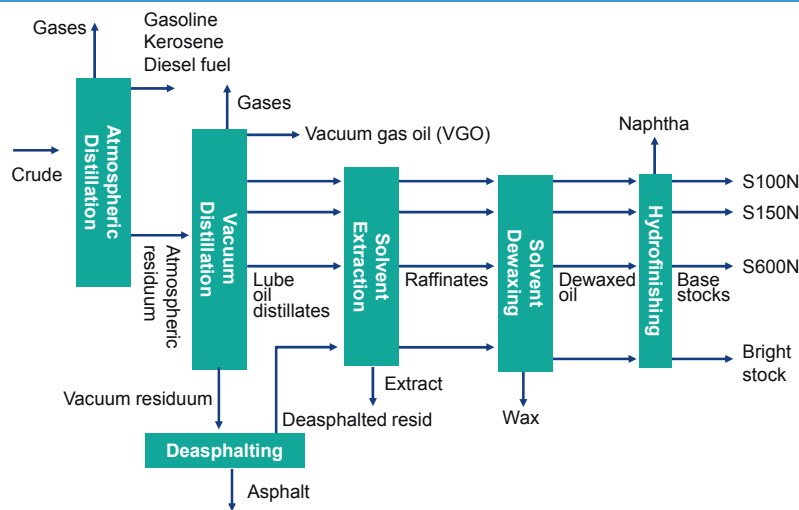


Major base stock refinery processes

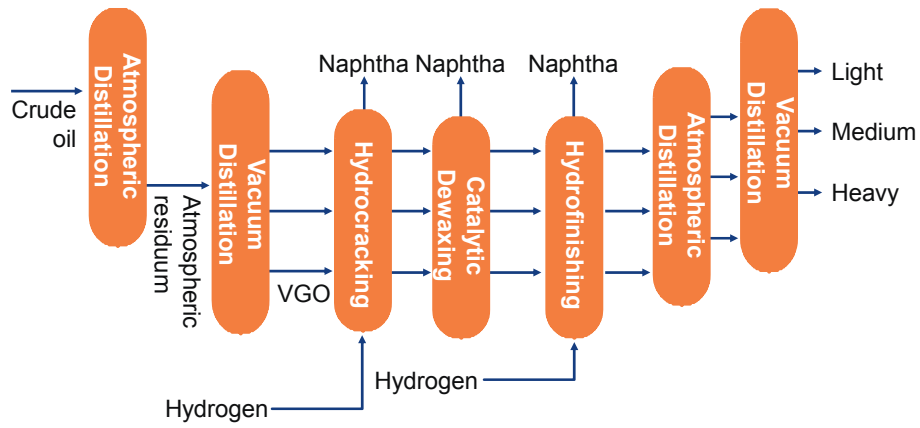
- Solvent Extraction (Group I)
 - Separation technology
 - Polar solvent removes aromatics leaving good saturated molecules
 - Removes sulfur, which is predominantly in aromatic molecules
- Hydrocracking (Group II & III)
 - Conversion technology
 - Breaks chemical bonds and adds hydrogen
 - Increases saturates by adding hydrogen
 - Removes sulfur, converting to volatile H₂S
 - Group II vs III is a function of feedstock and hydrocracker severity
- Synthesis (Group III, IV, & V)
 - GTL – Gas to Liquid – combine methane (natural gas) into large hydrocarbons
 - PAO – PolyAlphaOlefin – combine small double-bond molecules
 - Esters – Build up specific molecules using various starting molecules



Solvent extraction refinery process



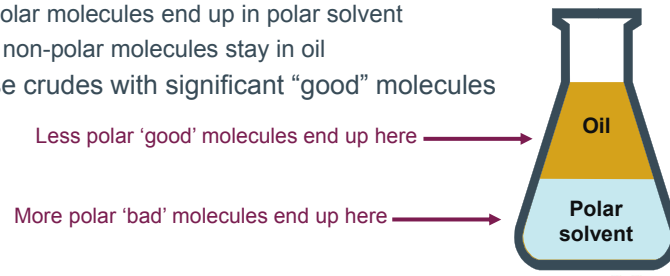
Hydrocracking refinery process



Solvent extraction

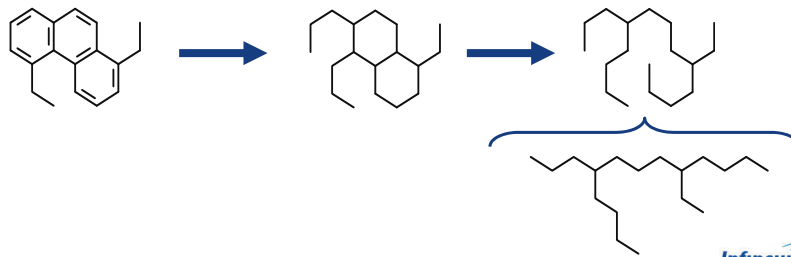
- Separation based on solubility
 - “Good” molecules are less polar
 - Straight and branched chain paraffins
 - Naphthenes
 - “Bad” molecules are more polar
 - Aromatics
- Use a polar solvent
 - “Bad” polar molecules end up in polar solvent
 - “Good” non-polar molecules stay in oil
- Must chose crudes with significant “good” molecules

Phenol
Furfural
N-methyl pyrrolidone



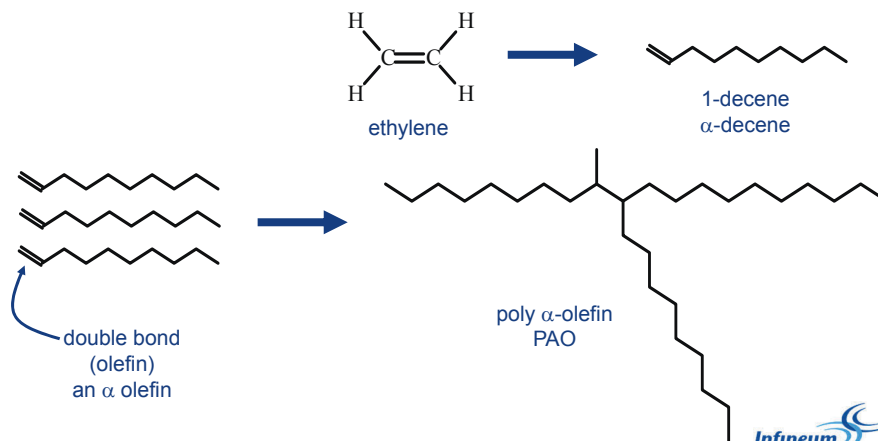
Hydrocracking

- Conversion of “bad” molecules into “good” molecules
 - “Cracking” means breaking apart
 - “Hydro” means adding hydrogen
 - “Hydrocracking” is breaking bonds and adding hydrogen
 - Hydrocracking usually implies high severity
 - Hydrofinishing usually implies low severity
 - Hydrotreatment can mean either



Synthetic process – PAO

- Select small molecules from other refinery streams
- Build up good molecules from the small ones



Synthetic process – GTL *

- GTL = Gas-to-Liquids
 - Process of turning natural gas into liquid hydrocarbons
 - Primary focus is liquid fuel production, but base stocks can also be made
- Steam-Methane Reforming (SMR) to make “syngas” ← Also other ways to make syngas

$$\text{CH}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{CO} + 3\text{H}_2$$

$$\text{CO} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2$$

$$\text{CH}_4 + \text{CO}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{CO} + 2\text{H}_2$$

Net Reaction:

$$\text{CH}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 2\text{CO} + 3\text{H}_2$$

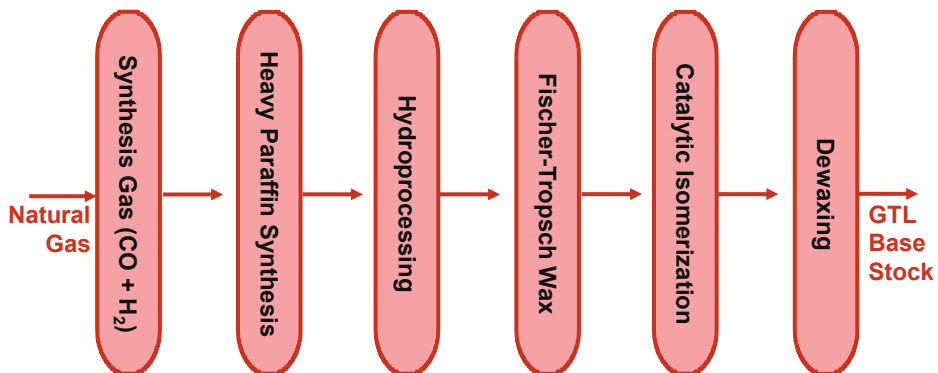
“Syngas”
- Followed by Fischer-Tropsch synthesis

$$n\text{CO} + (2n+1)\text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{C}_n\text{H}_{(2n+2)} + n\text{H}_2\text{O}$$
- GTL base stocks have:
 - Very high saturates and Viscosity Index
 - Essentially no sulfur, nitrogen, aromatics, or olefins
- GTL's meet the chemical and physical definition of API Group III
- A few GTL plants started-up recently
 - A large fuels plant could become largest source of base stock

*“Chemistry and Technology of Lubricants,” 3ed., Mortier, Fox, and Orszulik (Eds.), Springer, 2010



Gas-to-liquids



Source: RPS Energy, Lubes 'n' Greases, May 2014



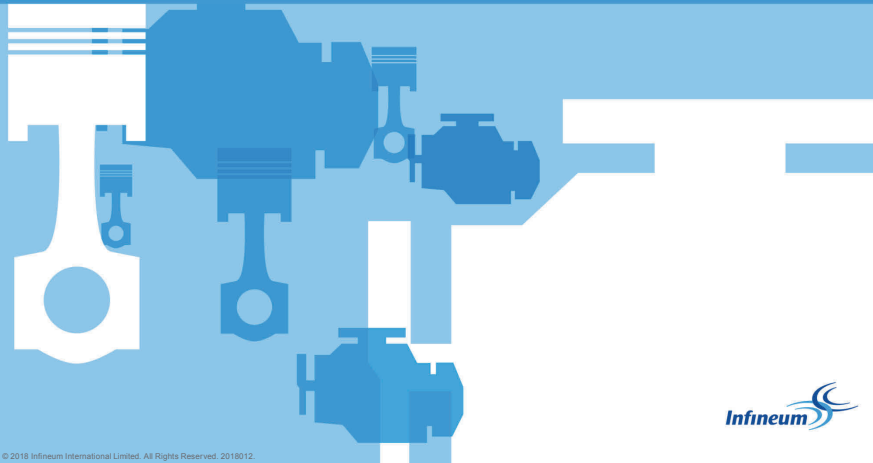
Other base stock types (reference)

- Esters
 - Diesters
 - Polyol esters
 - Phosphate esters
- PolyAlkylene Glycol (PAG)
- Alkylated naphthene (AN)
- Polyphenyl ether
- Silicones
- Bio-based
 - Natural oils
 - Chemically-functionalized vegetable oils
 - Biotechnology renewable oils (e.g., from plant sugars via algae)
- Many others

Ref: "Synthetics, Mineral Oils, and Bio-Based Lubricants, Chemistry and Technology"
L. R. Rudnick (ed.), CRC Taylor and Francis, 2006



Base stock key inspections

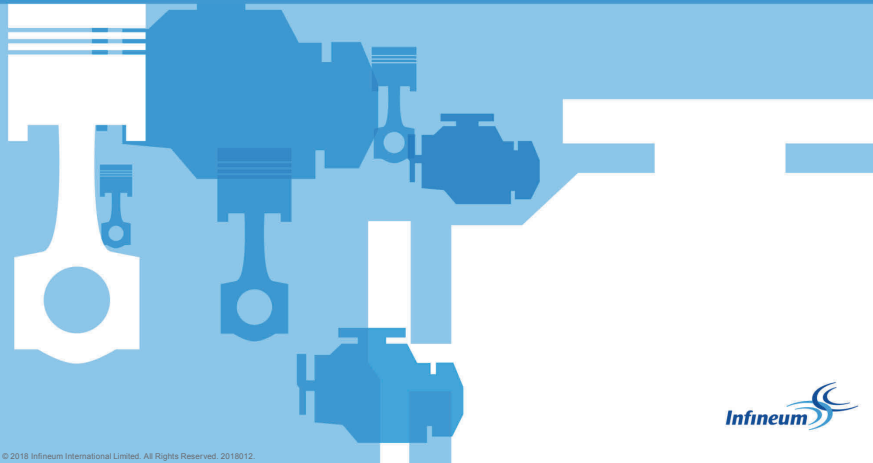


Key base stock properties – overview

- Viscosity (D445)
 - Sometimes kinematic viscosity at 100°C
 - Examples: HC4, HC6, HC12
 - Sometimes “Neutral Number” – approx. 4.6 times kinematic viscosity at 40°C
 - Examples: S100N, S150N, S600N
 - ISO Grade for Industrial Oils – related to kinematic viscosity (mm²/s) at 40°C
- Viscosity Index (D2270)
 - Rate of change of viscosity with temperature
- Low temperature properties
 - CCS (D5293), MRV (D4684), SBV (D5133), or Pour point (D97)
- Saturates (D2007)
 - Measure of “stable” vs. “reactive” molecules
 - Intended as an approximation of oxidative stability – Not perfect
- Sulfur (D4294)
 - Corrosive and poison to exhaust catalysts
- Volatility (D5800)
 - Evaporation
- Chemical properties are also very important



API base oil classification



Base oil classification

- American Petroleum Institute (API)
 - Trade association of oil companies
- Wanted a way to classify base oils
 - Base oil is a mixture of (one or more) base stocks
- Intended for Base Oil Interchange Guidelines (**BOIG**)
 - To approve an additive package previously approved in another base oil
 - Using Read-Across
 - More detail in the Specifications and Passenger Car sections
- Now used for marketing, lobbying, and other commercial activities



API base oil classification

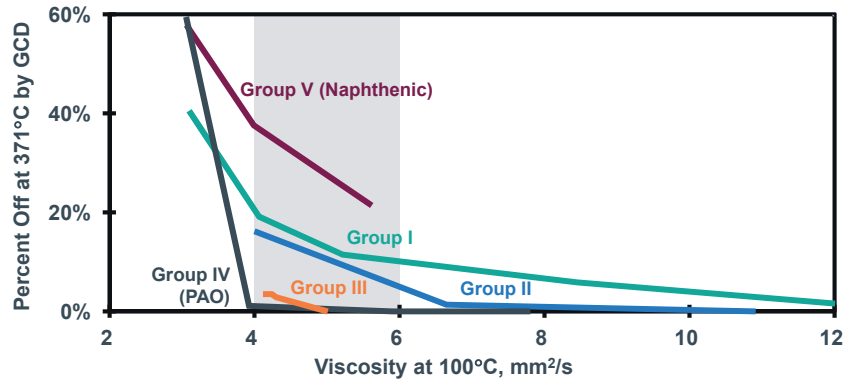
Group	Vis. Index	Saturates	Sulfur	Other
I	$80 \leq x < 120$	<90%	and / or >0.03%	
II	$80 \leq x < 120$	$\geq 90\%$	and $\leq 0.03\%$	
II Plus	>about 110			
III	≥ 120	$\geq 90\%$	and $\leq 0.03\%$	
III Plus	>about 135			
IV				PAO (Poly Alpha Olefins)
V				Everything Else
VI		Europe Only (ATIEL)		PIO (Poly Internal Olefins)

- Companies started using their own (unofficial) marketing phrases
 - “Group II Plus” and “Group III Plus”
 - Now used generally to mean “towards the high end of the group”
- Note: The word ‘Synthetic’ is not part of the API Classification
 - “Synthetic” is a marketing term, not a technical term
 - “Group III” can legally be labeled ‘synthetic’

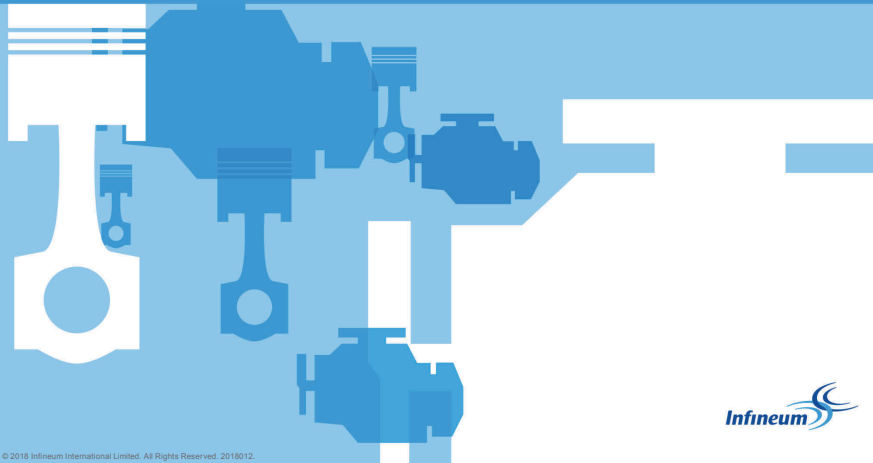


Volatility

- Volatility depends on viscosity and molecular structure
 - Advantages for Group III and Group IV at low viscosity



Base stock names and viscosity scales



Base stock names – API Group I

- Base stock names are brand names
 - Specific to each producing company
 - These are typical naming conventions:
- Solvent xxx Neutral (SxxxN, or SNxxx, or xxxSN, etc.)
 - Solvent from “Solvent Extracted”
 - xxx = viscosity
 - Saybolt Universal Seconds at 100°F
 - Approximately 4.6 times mm²/s at 210F (~100C)
 - Neutral from “Neutralization after Acid Washing”
 - First base stock refining technique
- HVI
 - Redwood Number 1 Seconds at 140°F (European)
- Bright Stock
 - Heaviest grade of base stock (~ S2500N ≈ 650 Redwood)
 - xxx Bright Stock = SUS viscosity at 210°F (e.g., 150 Bright Stock)
 - Approximately 4.6 times mm²/s at 100°F (~40°C)
 - “Bright” because heavy aromatics often fluorescent



Base stock names – API Groups II, III, IV, & V

- Base stock names are brand names
 - Specific to each producing company
 - These are typical naming conventions:
- HC xxx
 - HydroCracked xxx
 - xxx viscosity usually mm²/s at 100°C
 - HC4
 - Sometimes equivalent “Neutral Number”
 - HC100
- MVI, HVI, VHVI and XHVI


– Medium Viscosity Index	Naphthenic	(Group V)
– High Viscosity Index	Paraffinic	(Group I)
– Very High Viscosity Index	Hydrocracked	(Group II)
– eXtra High Viscosity Index	Hydrocracked	(Group III)
- PAO x = usually some number related to mm²/s at 100°C

– PAO 4	4 mm ² /s at 100°C
– PAO 45	4 mm ² /s at 100°C
– PAO 284	4 mm ² /s at 100°C



Base stock grade equivalents

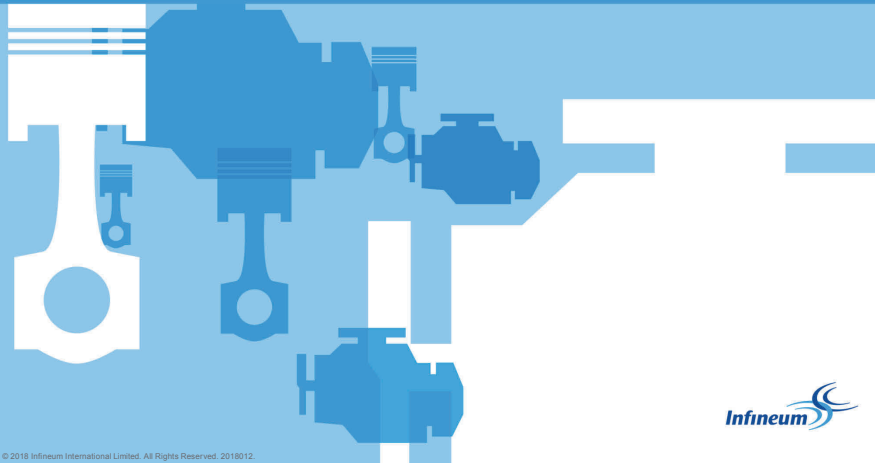
<u>Grade</u>	<u>SUS*</u> <u>at 100°F</u>	<u>Redwood#</u> <u>at 140°F</u>	<u>mm²/s</u> <u>at 100°C</u>	<u>mm²/s</u> <u>at 40°C</u>
S 75N	75	-	3.1	13
S100N	105	-	4.1	20
S150N	155	-	5.1	30
S325N	330	-	8.5	65
S600N	590	160	12.1	115
150 Bright Stock	2500	650	31.5	5000


 150 SUS at 210°F

*SUS = Saybolt Universal Seconds
 #Approximate



Base stock typical properties



Typical lube base stock properties (solvent neutrals – API Group I)*

	Light (S100N)	Medium (S150N)	Heavy (S600N)	Bright Stock (S2500N)
Viscosity at 100°C, mm ² /s	4	5	12	32
Viscosity at 40C, mm ² /s	20	30	110	490
Viscosity Index	95	95	95	95
Pour Point, °C	-18	-18	-9	-18
Volatility, GCD % off at 371°C	20	15	0	0
Volatility, NOACK	24	18	2	1
Flash Point, °C	200	210	250	280
Saturates, mass percent	75	75	70	60
Sulfur, mass percent	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.7

*Nominal, and not representative of any particular manufacturer



Typical lube base stock properties (hydrocracked – API Group II)*

	Light (100N)	Medium (200N)	Heavy (600N)
Viscosity at 100°C, mm ² /s	4	6	12
Viscosity at 40C, mm ² /s	20	40	110
Viscosity Index	100	100	100
Pour Point, °C	-18	-18	-18
Volatility, GCD % off at 371°C	16	2	0
Volatility, NOACK	23	11	2
Flash Point, °C	200	220	250
Saturates, mass percent	95	95	95
Sulfur, mass percent	0.01	0.01	0.01

*Nominal, and not representative of any particular manufacturer



Typical lube base stock properties (hydrocracked – API Group III)*

	Light (100N)	Medium (150N)	Heavy (250N)
Viscosity at 100°C, mm ² /s	4	6	8
Viscosity at 40C, mm ² /s	17	33	50
Viscosity Index	130	130	130
Pour Point, °C	-18	-18	-12
Volatility, GCD % off at 371°C			
Volatility, NOACK	13	6	4
Flash Point, °C	240	250	260
Saturates, mass percent	97	97	97
Sulfur, mass percent	0	0	0

*Nominal, and not representative of any particular manufacturer



Typical lube base stock properties (GTL – API Group III)*

	Very Light (GTL 3)	Light (GTL 4)	Medium (GTL 6)	Heavy (GTL 8)
Viscosity at 100°C, mm ² /s	3	4	6	8
Viscosity at 40C, mm ² /s	11	17	32	46
Viscosity Index	120	130	135	145
Pour Point, °C	-42	-33		-24
Volatility, GCD % off at 371°C		3	0.6	0
Volatility, NOACK	34	9	3	1
Flash Point, °C	200	230	240	270
Saturates, mass percent	98	97	97	96
Sulfur, mass percent	0	0	0	0

*Nominal, and not representative of any particular manufacturer



Typical lube base stock properties (PAO – API Group IV)*

	Light (PAO 4)	Medium (PAO 6)	Heavy (PAO 10)	Very Heavy (PAO 100)
Viscosity at 100°C, mm ² /s	4	6	10	100
Viscosity at 40C, mm ² /s	18	30	65	1300
Viscosity Index	130	135	130	160
Pour Point, °C	-63	-63	-51	-30
Volatility, GCD % off at 371°C	1	0	0	0
Volatility, NOACK	12	2	1	1
Flash Point, °C	200	240	270	290
Saturates, mass percent	96	96	96	94
Sulfur, mass percent	0	0	0	0

*Nominal, and not representative of any particular manufacturer



Base stock recent trends

- Transition from API Group I to Group II continuing
 - Demand for higher quality (oxidation, dispersancy, etc.)
 - Specifications with sulfur restrictions
 - Demand for lower volatility in lower viscosity grades
- API Group I base stocks still have uses
 - Higher viscosity: Marine, railroad, gear oils
 - Lower viscosity: Transformer oils, process oils, spray oils
- Demand for API Group III (and Group III Plus) will increase
 - Growth of SAE 0W-xx and 5W-xx grades
- PAO capacity expected to increase
- Green base stocks are niche for now
 - Re-refined (derived from used oil re-cycling)
 - Bio-lubricants (derived from sugarcane, algae, etc.)



Base stock summary

- Base stocks are the main component in lubricants
 - Have a significant effect on performance
- Base stocks are complex mixtures of molecules
 - Derived from crude oil by refinery processes
- Chemical composition determines performance
 - Saturates and sulfur usually most important, but not the whole story
- Physical properties are also important
 - Viscosity, Viscosity Index, pour point, volatility
- Performance testing of products still required
 - Compositional effects not well enough known
 - Additives are a major factor in finished products
 - API BOIG's are used to read-across testing
- Base stock research continuing
 - Develop better analytical test methods
 - Improve performance predictions
 - Demand for higher quality expected to continue



Permission is given for storage of one copy in electronic means for reference purposes. Further reproduction of any material is prohibited without prior written consent of Infineum International Limited.

The information contained in this document is based upon data believed to be reliable at the time of going to press and relates only to the matters specifically mentioned in this document. Although Infineum has used reasonable skill and care in the preparation of this information, in the absence of any overriding obligations arising under a specific contract, no representation, warranty (express or implied), or guarantee is made as to the suitability, accuracy, reliability or completeness of the information; nothing in this document shall reduce the user's responsibility to satisfy itself as to the suitability, accuracy, reliability, and completeness of such information for its particular use; there is no warranty against intellectual property infringement; and Infineum shall not be liable for any loss, damage or injury that may occur from the use of this information other than death or personal injury caused by its negligence. No statement shall be construed as an endorsement of any product or process. For greater certainty, before use of information contained in this document, particularly if the product is used for a purpose or under conditions which are abnormal or not reasonably foreseeable, this information must be reviewed with the supplier of such information.

Links to third party websites from this document are provided solely for your convenience. Infineum does not control and is not responsible for the content of those third party websites. If you decide to access any of those websites, you do so entirely at your own risk. Please also refer to our Privacy Policy.

'INFINEUM', the interlocking Ripple Device, the corporate mark comprising INFINEUM and the interlocking Ripple Device and 润英联 are trademarks of Infineum International Limited.

© 2018 Infineum International Limited. All rights reserved.

