

Challenges and Outlook for Transmission Fluids in EVs

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Electrifications is expected to be 50% (BEV 8%, full hybrid 11%) in year 2030



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2011-2030 Global Vehicle Production by Propulsion System Design



Lubricants and Greases in Electric Vehicles





Electric Drive Unit Design for BEV

EV transmission fluid application







Low viscosity for high efficency in the electric drive unit

Choosing low viscosity synthetic base stocks for high efficency



Superior oxidation stability, tested multiple times Example of Shell E-Fluids i Range

Ageing under nitrogen 170°C / 192hr

Oxidation140°C / 672hr



 The balanced formulation provides excellent oxidation and ageing stability

 Designed for fill for life application under high thermal stress conditions

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Fluid formulation comparison for thermal properties

Comparison of Heat Conductivity at 100°C



SR.16.12924 "Heat Transfer Properties Review" Shell Internal report by K.Kamato

Direct Oil Cooling as a concept for future thermal management



- Saving weight
- More compact design, saving space
- Lower power losses
- Efficient cooling management
- Lower number of and smaller parts
- Lower material cost



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 Source: Roger Perthen, E-DRIVE: HIGHLY INTEGRATED AND HIGH EFFICIENT, AVL List GmbH; Dr. Cedric Rouaud, Ricardo plc, Battery Show Conference 2018

What possibilities do we have to boost Thermal Properties?





Electric Motor design is unique to each OEM





Ford Focus

Chevy Volt











 Each OEM has a unique design of the electric motor

- Insulation material
- Winding technology
- Rotor / Stator setup



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Example of incompatibility with integrated E-Components (Rotor)

Example of incompatibility with integrated E-Components (Rotator)



- Oil immersing into cracks of Insulation
 - Electrical Properties of Lubricant

- Chemical reaction with Copper to build up "CuS Bridges" leading to short circuits, decreasing efficency of E-Motor
 - Copper Compatibility of Lubricant
 - Compatibility with insulation material of hairpins

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- Electric Rotator spinning with high speed, experiencing high dynamic load
 - Small Cracks in the insulation



Fluid Formulation Comparison for electrical properties

Investigation of effects on electrical conductivity (IEC 60247)



Ageing effect on electrical properties - oxidation of lubricants



Oxidation of lubricants has higher effects on conductivity as wear particles

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Screening methods for future E-Mobility lubricants development



















- Understanding frequency effects on lubricants behaviour
- Dielectric breakdown measurements
- Electrical Conductivity
- Copper Wire Corrosion testing
- Hairpin immersion in oil
- Foaming test for 20.000 rpm
- Updating test rigs for high speed E-Drive Units
- ...

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Balancing Cu-Protection with Scuffing Protection Shell E-Fluids i Technology





Balancing Cu-Protection with Scuffing Protection



Conductivity of E-Fluid Technology vs. conventional

- Baseoil composition for E-Fluid Technology extra low conductive due to VM / Baseoil selection
- Shell E-Fluid Core Technology shows comparable conductivity as conv. ATF
- Shell E-Fluid Plus Technology shows significant improvement for electrical conductivity

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Need to develop dedicated lubricants for next generation

electrified drivetrains

Only high grade base oil technologies are fit for purpose, balancing commercial value vs. technical performance

Evaluating successful the new E Fluids, requires to investe into test methods and alternative chemistries and base stocks

Summary

- Superior electrical performance benefits can be achieved with dedicated lubricants technologies
- Future EV-Fluids need to deliver excellent compatibility with electric components, while achieving higher gear protection compared to conv. technologies 🧧

Thank You RESTRICTED

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Shell E-Fluids key enabler: GTL Base oil with fine selected additive technology

