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TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

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# Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program

## Overview

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## Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program

### Foreword

This overview describes the voluntary API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program and is intended to explain to marketers how the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark is licensed and displayed for the consumer. The overview provides the marketer with a description of the Mark and its use, licensing requirements, aftermarket conformance, and enforcement procedures.

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Suggested revisions are invited and should be submitted to:

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American Petroleum Institute  
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#### API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program

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# Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program

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## Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program

### Section 1 – General

#### 1.1 Introduction

The API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program is a voluntary program designed to certify and monitor the quality characteristics of diesel exhaust fluid intended to operate converters with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) in motor vehicles with diesel engines. Diesel exhaust fluid marketers that meet specific performance requirements for diesel exhaust fluid may be licensed to display the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark.

#### 1.2 API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program Overview

**1.2.1** The API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program is designed to certify and monitor brands of diesel exhaust fluid intended to operate converters with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) in motor vehicles with diesel engines. The system includes a formal license agreement executed by the marketer with API. The program's Mark is intended to help the consumer identify brands of fluids that have satisfied the requirements for licensing and certification. The system includes an audit process to verify that licensed brands in the marketplace comply with the terms of the API Licensing Agreement.

**1.2.2** API issues a license to a diesel exhaust fluid marketer after the marketer confirms it has met all the requirements spelled out in this document, the licensing application, and an International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standard. The marketer must execute the API Licensing Agreement as a condition of licensure.

**1.2.3** Performance requirements, test methods, and limits are established by ISO Technical Committee (TC) 22, Road Vehicles, Subcommittee (SC) 5, Engine tests.

**1.2.4** The API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark does not change. Annual licenses for this mark are issued only for diesel exhaust fluids that meet the current ISO performance requirements.

**1.2.5** The test data that support product claims are the responsibility of the individual marketer.

**1.2.6** Diesel exhaust fluid licensed to use the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark is subject to conformance audits. Conformance is determined by comparing measured physical and chemical properties of the fluid against licensing data on file at API and the performance requirements in an ISO standard.

**1.2.7** A Diesel Exhaust Fluid Technical Advisory Board has been established for the purpose of providing guidance to the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program. Membership on this Board is at the discretion of API in consultation with the Alliance for Automobile Manufacturer's SCR Stakeholder Group.



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Figure 1 – API Diesel  
Exhaust Fluid  
Certification Mark

## Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program

### Section 2 – Description of API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark

The API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark (API DEF Mark) is designed to identify diesel exhaust fluid intended to operate converters with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) in motor vehicles with diesel engines. The Mark may be licensed only if the diesel exhaust fluid satisfies the requirements of the most recent and applicable edition of ISO 22241, *Diesel Engines – NOx Reduction Agent AUS 32*, Part 1: Quality Requirements.



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## Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program

### Section 3 – API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark Licensing System

#### 3.1 General

**3.1.1** The API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program is a voluntary program designed to certify and monitor the quality characteristics of diesel exhaust fluid intended to operate converters with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) in motor vehicles with diesel engines. Diesel exhaust fluid marketers that meet specific performance requirements for diesel exhaust fluid may be licensed to display the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark. The purpose of this Mark is to ensure that diesel exhaust fluid meeting the ISO 22241 standard for aqueous urea solution (AUS 32) is easily identified by consumers.

**3.1.2** To use the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark, a diesel exhaust fluid marketer must obtain a license from API. Upon request, API will supply information to the marketer that describes reporting requirements for physical and chemical properties, documentation and verification of bench test performance, conformance and enforcement procedures, fees, trace codes, application procedures, and licensing requirements. The procedures the marketer must follow and the licensing forms the marketer must complete and submit to API to secure the right to use the Mark are described below and in the Application for Licensure. A marketer desiring to apply for a license should download the most recent version of the Application for Licensure from [www.apidef.org](http://www.apidef.org). Licenses are valid for one year as long as all program requirements continue to be met. Annual renewals are issued when all renewal steps are completed.

#### 3.2 Royalty Fees

**3.2.1** Licensees pay API royalty fees to support the Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program. These fees are reviewed annually. The current fee structure is available online at [www.apidef.org](http://www.apidef.org).

**3.2.2** Licensees pay an annual minimum royalty fee and a royalty fee for each gallon of API-licensed diesel exhaust fluid.

**3.2.2.1** The minimum royalty fee is charged to all licensees upon initial licensing and upon annual renewal.

**3.2.2.2** New licensees are only assessed the minimum royalty fee in their initial year of licensing. The royalty fee based on a licensee's volume of API-licensed diesel exhaust fluid sold is charged to the licensee at time of license renewal. To renew an API license, the licensee must report the volume of all API-licensed diesel exhaust fluid (packaged and bulk) sold in the prior year. Volume-of-sales figures will be held in strict confidence by API.

#### 3.3 Responsibility of Marketers

Only diesel exhaust fluid marketers may apply for and be awarded a license to display the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark. A diesel exhaust fluid marketer is the marketing organization responsible for the integrity of the brand name and representation of the branded product in the marketplace. The marketer is solely responsible for ensuring that the performance characteristics of the certified diesel exhaust fluid meet all of the requirements of the certification program.

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## Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program

### Section 3 – API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark Licensing System

#### 3.4 Licensing Procedures

**3.4.1** A valid API license permits the marketer to use the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark on its licensed diesel exhaust fluid brands and is that marketer's warranty that its licensed brands comply with licensing requirements. The license application requires applicants to certify that its licensed diesel exhaust fluid meets ISO 22241 requirements and to abide by all the requirements of the program and the licensing agreement.

**3.4.2** The license application specifies which certified information is required to qualify for a license for the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark. This includes written certification by the marketer that each brand of diesel exhaust fluid for which licensing is requested meets the most recent version of prescribed technical criteria as set forth in ISO 22241 Parts 1, 2 and 3.

**3.4.3** The applicant is required to submit the following information for each brand to be licensed:

- a. Physical and chemical properties.
- b. Lab test results demonstrating compliance with ISO 22241. The lab must maintain a formal quality system that meets or exceeds the minimum requirements of ISO 9001:2000. Additionally, the lab must participate in an industry round-robin testing program such as the ASTM Interlaboratory Cross-Check Program.
- c. Product traceability code information.

The license application specifies that all licensed fluids are subject to monitoring and enforcement procedures, including audits.

**3.4.4** After the marketer has completed the application process, paid the fee, and been granted the license, the marketer may display the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark on licensed brands in accordance with Section 4.

**3.4.5** API maintains strict confidentiality of all proprietary data provided by license applicants. Information submitted is used only as specified in the license agreement.

#### 3.5 Renewals

A license may be renewed annually by mutual agreement of the parties, provided the licensee reports the volume of licensed diesel exhaust fluid sold the previous year, pays the annual fee, and agrees to comply with any amendments to the license agreement and any modifications or additional specifications of the license requirements.

#### 3.6 System Monitoring and Enforcement

The integrity of the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program is maintained by means of a formal monitoring and enforcement program, as defined in Section 5.



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## Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program

### Section 4 – Use and Labeling Requirements for the API DEF Mark

#### 4.1 API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark

A marketer may display the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark, as described in this section, only after obtaining a license to use it. Under the terms of the License Agreement, marketers may use the Mark in a number of ways: for example, on containers of licensed brands (bottles, cans, intermediate bulk containers, and dispensing units), in advertisements of licensed brands, and in materials describing licensed brands (including shipping documentation). The API Marks shall be located and displayed as described in 4.2.

#### 4.2 API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark

**4.2.1** If the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark is used, it shall be clearly displayed on the front of the container of those brands of diesel exhaust fluid that have been properly licensed by API. Note that this does not prevent the licensed marketer from displaying the Mark again on the back of the container.

**4.2.2** API shall supply electronic versions of the Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark in a variety of formats (JPG, TIF, BMP, and/or EPS). The minimum size of the Mark shall be 2.5 centimeters by 2.5 centimeters (see Figure 2), and it can be reproduced in several color schemes:

- a. PMS 1797 and black.
- b. CMYK.
- c. Black (or predominant color).
- d. White against dark background.

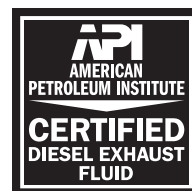
Figure 2 – 2.5 x 2.5  
Centimeter Versions of  
API Diesel Exhaust Fluid  
Certification Mark



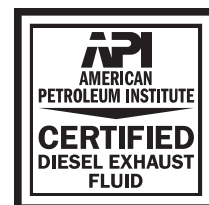
a. PMS 1797 and black



b. CMYK



c. Black (or predominant color)



d. White against dark background

**4.2.3** API has registered the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark only in the English language, and it can be displayed only as registered (see Figure 1). However, the purpose of the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark is to assist consumers, so API encourages licensed marketers to translate the words CERTIFIED DIESEL EXHAUST FLUID into any appropriate language outside of the Mark. The translation must be literal. The location of the translations can be anywhere on the front of the label but not within a mark or symbol of any kind. AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE is also a licensed mark and cannot be translated without permission of API.

#### 4.3 Product Traceability Coding

**4.3.1** For purposes of conformance audits, the marketer shall ensure that product traceability codes appear on each container and that these codes are legible and durable. Each container shall be coded to permit traceability of samples in the marketplace by formulation, date of packaging, and source of manufacture.

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### Section 4 – Use and Labeling Requirements for the API DEF Mark

**4.3.2** The marketer may use whatever coding system is appropriate or convenient. Disclosure of coding systems to API is required in the license application. No change in coding is permitted without prior notification of API. Coding information provided to API is considered confidential and will be used only as described in the API license agreement.



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## Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program

### Section 5 – System Monitoring, Enforcement and Conformance

#### 5.1 General

**5.1.1** API's Diesel Exhaust Fluid Aftermarket Audit Program (DEFAMAP) is a monitoring and enforcement program designed to ensure compliance with the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program. The integrity of this voluntary system depends on adherence by marketers (licensees) to industry technical specifications and compliance with the terms of the marketers' licensing agreements. Monitoring and enforcement efforts are directed to ensure that licensed diesel exhaust fluids meet industry technical specifications and that the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark is properly displayed on containers and conveys accurate information to consumers about the contents.

**5.1.2** An attempt will be made annually to secure samples of brands of diesel exhaust fluids currently licensed by API. Samples will be drawn in accordance with ISO 22241 Part 2. Each of the diesel exhaust fluids sampled will be analyzed to determine compliance with technical specifications (physical, chemical, and bench tests).

**5.1.3** Physical and chemical audit data are compared with the information submitted through the API licensing process. Test results must meet the physical and chemical tolerances described in ISO 22241 Part 2.

**5.1.4** API will contract with independent organizations to collect samples from the field and conduct all physical and chemical analyses and bench tests.

**5.1.5** Data obtained through DEFAMAP are considered confidential, are available only to the appropriate API staff and the licensee, and are used only for the purposes stated in the inquiry. Specific data derived from DEFAMAP will not be used for any reason other than the monitoring process without written permission from the licensee. When summary data are issued by API, they will not be company specific.

#### 5.2 Violations

##### 5.2.1 General

Violations of the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program are divided into two categories: (a) noncompliance with technical specifications and (b) improper use of the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Mark.

##### 5.2.1.1 Noncompliance with Technical Specifications

If an API-licensed diesel exhaust fluid does not meet technical specifications, API will attempt to work directly with the marketer to evaluate the nonconformity and take additional corrective action as appropriate on a voluntary basis. In the event that the matter cannot be satisfactorily resolved, API will take or initiate the actions listed below, singly or in combination, to maintain the credibility of the API Mark and protect the consumer. Enforcement action will be related to the severity of the alleged offense, the period of time that the violating product has been in the marketplace, the efforts made by the marketer to correct the violation, and the possible harmful impact on the consumer. These actions include the following:

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## Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program

### Section 5 – System Monitoring, Enforcement and Conformance

- a. Temporary suspension of the authority of the licensee to use the API Mark on a product until corrective action has been taken.
- b. Termination of the authority of the licensee to use the API Mark on an individual product.
- c. Termination of the authority of the licensee to use the API Mark on all API-licensed products marketed by the licensee.
- d. Requirement for the licensee to remove noncomplying products that display the API Mark from the marketplace.

Note: All monitoring and enforcement actions must be resolved to API's satisfaction before an existing license will be renewed or a new license issued.

#### 5.2.1.2 Improper Use of API Mark

If licensed or unlicensed oils display an improper label or unauthorized labeling data, API will require the marketer to cease and desist from committing the violation and will request verification that the violation has been corrected.

#### 5.2.2 Verification of Compliance with API Enforcement Action

API will take steps to verify that required corrective action has been executed. Actions requested to verify compliance will depend on the seriousness of the violation. The cost of these verification procedures will be borne by the marketer, as specified in the license agreement. Verification procedures include the following:

- a. Submission of copies of labels. The marketer will be required to provide a copy of all labels reflecting the correction of the API Mark violation.
- b. Attestations. The marketer will be required to furnish an affidavit from a third party (a law firm or an accounting firm) that the specified remedial action has been completed.
- c. Retesting. The marketer will agree to undertake any agreed-upon retesting.
- d. Other evidence of compliance. API can make other reasonable requests to verify compliance.

#### 5.2.3 Appeals

When API suspends or revokes a license, the former licensee may appeal the decision. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the Director, Training and Certification Programs. The appeal shall include a statement of the basis for the objection. The appeal must be filed with API within 45 days of the date of notification of the suspension or revocation of the license. The API Director shall investigate the objections raised and respond to them in writing within 45 days of receipt. If the objections cannot be resolved by the Director, a hearing by a designated appeals board shall be convened in accordance with API Policy 104.



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### Section 6 – Referenced Publications

The following standards and specifications are cited in this document. In each case, the most recent version is applicable.

ISO 22241

*Diesel Engines – NOx Reduction Agent AUS 32*

Part 1 Quality Requirements

Part 2 Test Methods

Part 3 Handling, Transportation, and Storage



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