UPDATED INFORMATIVE DIGEST

Sections Affected: Section 2257, title 13, California Code of Regulations, and the following incorporated documents: ARB's "Test Method for Evaluating Port Fuel Injector (PFI) Deposits in Vehicle Engines" and ARB's "BMW - 10,000 Miles Intake Valve Test Procedures."

The gasoline deposit control additive regulation (13 CCR 2257) was adopted by the Air Resources Board (ARB) in 1991. The regulation requires that all commercial gasolines be certified to contain effective levels of detergent additives. The regulation contains specific administrative and performance requirements that a producer, importer, or distributor must meet to obtain certification of a gasoline. As part of the administrative requirements, an applicant must provide specific information in support of the request for certification. ARB staff uses this information, and other requested information as necessary, to evaluate and process applications for certification of gasolines.

Since adoption of the gasoline deposit control additive regulation in 1991, ARB staff has gained experience applying the regulation indicating the need to make some changes to the regulations. Most of the changes can be effected by minor, nonsubstantive amendments to clarify various provisions of the regulation. For example, the definition of the term "gasoline" has been amended because staff has found that the original definition was unclear.

Additionally, ARB made two substantive modifications to the gasoline deposit control additive regulation. First, the specifications for the fuel used in vehicle testing ("certification test fuel") have been modified. The regulation requires that the certification test fuel be representative of the gasoline produced, imported, or distributed by the applicant ("production gasoline"). A certification test fuel is representative of production gasoline if its properties are similar. Under the current regulation applicants have been allowed to extend the scope of certification to include gasoline formulations with different properties by submitting data from supplemental testing using fuel representative of those properties. As a result of the Phase 2 reformulated gasoline standards that went into effect March 1, 1996, there will be much less variation in the properties of production gasolines, which will reduce the need for supplemental testing. To further limit the need for supplemental testing and because it is difficult to blend a certification test fuel to exact property specifications, ARB will now allow test fuels with specified properties (hydrocarbon, olefin, sulfur and oxygen content) that are within a specified range -- 80 percent -- of the properties of the gasoline formulation for which certification is requested.

Second, section 2257(a) has been amended to provide additive blenders and distributors with additional operational flexibility by allowing manual correction of underadditized gasoline at the retail or wholesale facility. The current regulation requires that all commercial gasoline be properly additized prior to reaching the retail or wholesale facility (*e.g.*, service station) and did not allow for correction of underadditized gasoline one the gasoline left the final distribution facility for a retail or wholesale outlet.

Finally, the test procedures for demonstrating compliance with the gasoline deposit control additive standards have been amended. Since the adoption of the standards, the incorporated test procedures for determining compliance with the keep-clean and clean-up standards have been revised by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) to include more detailed procedural instructions and improved quality assurance/quality control procedures. These updated and improved procedures have been incorporated in the regulation.