Hydraulic fluids based on mineral oils and related hydrocarbons

Application notes and requirements for Rexroth hydraulic components
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1 Basic information

1.1 General instructions
The hydraulic fluid is the common element in any hydraulic component and must be selected very carefully. Quality and cleanliness of the hydraulic fluid are decisive factors for the operational reliability, efficiency and service life of a system.

Hydraulic fluids must conform, be selected and used in accordance with the generally acknowledged rules of technology and safety provisions. Reference is made to the country-specific standards and directives (in Germany the directive of the Employer’s Liability Insurance Association BGR 137).

This data sheet includes recommendations and regulations concerning the selection, operation and disposal of hydraulic fluids based on mineral oils and related hydrocarbons in the application of Rexroth hydraulic components.

The individual selection of hydraulic fluid or the choice of classification are the responsibility of the operator.

It is the responsibility of the user to ensure that appropriate measures are taken for safety and health protection and to ensure compliance with statutory regulations. The recommendations of the lubricant manufacturer and the specifications given in the safety data sheet are to be observed when using hydraulic fluid.

This data sheet does not absolve the operator from verifying the conformity and suitability of the respective hydraulic fluid for his system. He is to ensure that the selected fluid meets the minimum requirements of the relevant fluid standard during the whole of the period of use.

Other regulations and legal provisions may also apply. The operator is responsible for their observance, e.g. EU directive 2004/35/EG and their national implementations. In Germany the Water Resources Act (WHG) is also to be observed.

We recommend that you maintain constant, close contact with lubricant manufacturers to support you in the selection, maintenance, care and analyses.

When disposing of used hydraulic fluids, apply the same care as during use.

1.2 Scope
This data sheet must be observed when using hydraulic fluids based on mineral oils and related hydrocarbons in Bosch Rexroth hydraulic components.

Please note that the specifications of this data sheet may be restricted further by the specifications given in the product data sheets for the individual components.

The use of the individual hydraulic fluids in accordance with the intended purpose can be found in the safety data sheets or other product description documents of the lubricant manufacturers. In addition, each use is to be individually considered.

Rexroth hydraulic components may only be operated with hydraulic fluids based on mineral oils and related hydrocarbons according to DIN 51524 if specified in the respective component data sheet or if Rexroth approval for use is furnished.

Notes:
In the market overview RE 90220-01, hydraulic fluid based on mineral oil are described which, according to the information of the lubricant manufacturer, feature the respective parameters of the current requirements standard DIN 51524 and other parameters which are of relevance for suitability in connection with Rexroth components.

These specifications are not checked or monitored by Bosch Rexroth. The list in the market overview does not therefore represent a recommendation on the part of Rexroth or approval of the respective hydraulic fluid for use with Rexroth components and does not release the operator from his responsibility regarding selection of the hydraulic fluid.

Bosch Rexroth will accept no liability for its components for any damage resulting from failure to comply with the notes below.

1.3 Safety instructions
Hydraulic fluids can constitute a risk for persons and the environment. These risks are described in the hydraulic fluid safety data sheets. The operator is to ensure that a current safety data sheet for the hydraulic fluid used is available and that the measures stipulated therein are complied with.
2 Solid particle contamination and cleanliness levels

Solid particle contamination is the major reason for faults occurring in hydraulic systems. It may lead to a number of effects in the hydraulic system. Firstly, single large solid particles may lead directly to a system malfunction, and secondly small particles cause continuous elevated wear.

For hydraulic fluids, the cleanliness level is given as a three-digit numerical code in accordance with ISO 4406. This numerical code denotes the number of particles present in a hydraulic fluid for a defined quantity. Moreover, foreign solid matter is not to exceed a mass of 50 mg/kg (gravimetric examination according to ISO 4405).

In general, compliance with a minimum cleanliness level of 20/18/15 in accordance with ISO 4406 or better is to be maintained in operation. Special servo valves demand improved cleanliness levels of at least 18/16/13. A reduction in cleanliness level by one level means half of the quantity of particles and thus greater cleanliness. Lower numbers in cleanliness levels should always be striven for and extend the service life of hydraulic components. The component with the highest cleanliness requirements determines the required cleanliness of the overall system. Please also observe the specifications in table 1: "Cleanliness levels according to ISO 4406" and in the respective data sheets of the various hydraulic components.

Hydraulic fluids frequently fail to meet these cleanliness requirements on delivery. Careful filtering is therefore required during operation and in particular, during filling in order to ensure the required cleanliness levels. Your lubricant manufacturer can tell you the cleanliness level of hydraulic fluids as delivered. To maintain the required cleanliness level over the operating period, you must use a reservoir breather filter. If the environment is humid, take appropriate measures, such as a breather filter with air drying or permanent off-line water separation.

**Note:** the specifications of the lubricant manufacturer relating to cleanliness levels are based on the time at which the container concerned is filled and not on the conditions during transport and storage.

Further information about contamination with solid matter and cleanliness levels can be found in brochure RE 08016.

### Table 1: Cleanliness levels according to ISO 4406

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Particles per 100 ml</th>
<th>Scale number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More than</td>
<td>Up to and including</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8,000,000</td>
<td>16,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,000,000</td>
<td>8,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>130,000</td>
<td>250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64,000</td>
<td>130,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32,000</td>
<td>64,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>32,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>16,000</td>
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<td>4,000</td>
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<td>130</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3 Selection of the hydraulic fluid

The use of hydraulic fluids based on mineral oils for Rexroth hydraulic components is based on compliance with the minimum requirements of DIN 51524.

3.1 Selection criteria for the hydraulic fluid

The specified limit values for all components employed in the hydraulic system, for example viscosity and cleanliness level, must be observed with the hydraulic fluid used, taking into account the specified operating conditions.

Hydraulic fluid suitability depends, amongst others, on the following factors:

3.1.1 Viscosity

Viscosity is a basic property of hydraulic fluids. The permissible viscosity range of complete systems needs to be determined taking account of the permissible viscosity of all components and it is to be observed for each individual component.

The viscosity at operating temperature determines the response characteristics of closed control loops, stability and damping of systems, the efficiency factor and the degree of wear.

We recommend that the optimum operating viscosity range of each component be kept within the permissible temperature range. This usually requires either cooling or heating, or both. The permissible viscosity range and the necessary cleanliness level can be found in the product data sheet for the component concerned.

If the viscosity of a hydraulic fluid used is above the permitted operating viscosity, this will result in increased hydraulic-mechanical losses. In return, there will be lower internal leakage losses. If the pressure level is lower, lubrication gaps may not be filled up, which can lead to increased wear. For hydraulic pumps, the permitted suction pressure may not be reached, which may lead to cavitation damage.

If the viscosity of a hydraulic fluid is below the permitted operating viscosity, increased leakage, wear, susceptibility to contamination and a shorter component life cycle will result.

3.1.2 Viscosity-temperature behavior

For hydraulic fluids, the viscosity temperature behavior (V-T behavior) is of particular importance. Viscosity is characterized in that it drops when the temperature increases and rises when the temperature drops; see Fig. 1 "Viscosity temperature chart for HL, HLP, HLPD (VI 100)". The interrelation between viscosity and temperature is described by the viscosity index (VI).

The viscosity temperature diagram in Fig. 1 is extrapolated in the < 40 °C range. This idealized diagram is for reference purposes only. Measured values can be obtained from your lubricant manufacturer and are to be preferred for design purposes.

Fig. 1: Viscosity-temperature chart for HL, HLP, HLPD (VI 100, double logarithmic representation)
### 3.1.3 Wear protection capability

Wear protection capability describes the property of hydraulic fluids to prevent or minimize wear within the components. The wear protection capability is described in DIN 51524-2-3 via test procedures ”FZG gear test rig” (ISO 14635-1) and ”Mechanical test in the vane pump” (ISO 20763). From ISO VG 32 DIN 51524-2-3 prescribes a rating of at least 10 (FZG test). At present, the FZG test cannot be applied to viscosity classes < ISO VG 32.

### 3.1.4 Material compatibility

The hydraulic fluid must not negatively affect the materials used in the components. Compatibility with coatings, seals, hoses, metals and plastics is to be observed in particular. The fluid classifications specified in the respective component data sheets are tested by the manufacturer with regard to material compatibility. Parts and components not supplied by us are to be checked by the user.

#### Table 2: Known material incompatibilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Incompatible with:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hlx classifications</td>
<td>with EPDM seals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zinc- and ash-free</td>
<td>with bronze-filled PTFE seals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hydraulic fluids</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3.1.5 Aging resistance

The way a hydraulic fluid ages depends on the thermal, chemical and mechanical stress to which it is subjected. Aging resistance can be greatly influenced by the chemical composition of the hydraulic fluids.

High fluid temperatures (e.g. over 80 °C) result in a approximate halving of the fluid service life for every 10 °C temperature increase and should therefore be avoided. The halving of the fluid service life results from the application of the Arrhenius equation (see Glossary).

### 3.1.6 Air separation ability (ASA)

The air separation ability (ASA) describes the property of a hydraulic fluid to separate undissolved air. Hydraulic fluids contain approx. 7 to 13 percent by volume of dissolved air (with atmospheric pressure and 50 °C). Hydraulic fluids always contain dissolved air. During operation, dissolved air may be transformed into undissolved air, leading to cavitation damages. Fluid classification, fluid product, reservoir size and design must be coordinated to take into account the dwell time and ASA value of the hydraulic fluid. The air separation capacity depends on the viscosity, temperature, basic fluid and aging.

It cannot be improved by additives.

According to DIN 51524 for instance, an ASA value ≤ 10 minutes is required for viscosity class ISO VG 46, 6 minutes are typical, lower values are preferable.

### 3.1.7 Demulsifying ability and water solubility

The capacity of a hydraulic fluid to separate water at a defined temperature is known as the demulsifying ability. ISO 6614 defines the demulsifying properties of hydraulic fluids.

For larger systems with permanent monitoring, a demulsifying fluid with good water separation capability (WSC) is recommended. The water can be drained from the bottom of the reservoir. In smaller systems (e.g. in mobile machines), whose fluid is less closely monitored and where water contamination into the hydraulic fluid, for instance through air condensation, cannot be ruled out completely, an HLPD fluid is recommended.

The demulsifying ability up to ISO-VG 100 is given at 54 °C, and at 82 °C for fluids with higher viscosity.

Water emulsifying HLPD hydraulic fluids have no, or a very poor, demulsifying ability.

### 3.1.8 Filterability

Filterability describes the ability of a hydraulic fluid to pass through a filter, removing solid contaminants. The hydraulic fluids used require a good filterability, not just when new, but also during the whole of their service life. Depending on the basic fluid used and the additives (VI enhancers) there are great differences here.

The filterability is a basic prerequisite for cleanliness, servicing and filtration of hydraulic fluids. Filterability is tested with the new hydraulic fluid and after the addition of 0.2 % water. The underlying standard (ISO 13357-1/-2) stipulates that filterability must have no negative effects on the filters or the hydraulic fluid, see chapter 4 "Hydraulic fluids in operation”.

### 3.1.9 Corrosion protection

Hydraulic fluids should not just prevent corrosion formation on steel components, they must also be compatible with non-ferrous metals and alloys. Corrosion protection tests on different metals and metal alloys are described in DIN 51524.

Hydraulic fluids that are not compatible with the materials listed above must not be used, even if they are compliant with ISO 51524.

Rexroth components are usually tested with HLP hydraulic fluids or corrosion protection oils based on mineral oils before they are delivered.
3.1.10 Additivation

The properties described above can be modified with the help of suitable additives. A general distinction is made for fluids between heavy metal-free and heavy metal-containing (generally zinc) additive systems. Both additive systems are most often incompatible with each other. The mixing of these fluids must be avoided even if the mixing ratio is very low. See chapter 4, "Hydraulic fluids in operation".

Increasing additivation generally leads to deteriorated air separation ability (ASA) and water separation capability (WSC) of the hydraulic fluid. According to the present state of knowledge, all hydraulic fluids described in this document, independently of the actual additivation, can be filtered using all filter materials with all known filtration ratings \( \geq 1 \, \mu \text{m} \) without filtering out effective additives at the same time.

Bosch Rexroth does not prescribe any specific additive system.

3.2 Classification and fields of application

Table 4: Classification and fields of application

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Typical field of application</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HL fluids according to DIN 51524-1 VI = 100</td>
<td>Hydraulic fluids predominantly only with additives for oxidation and corrosion protection, but no specific additives for wear protection in case of mixed friction</td>
<td>HL fluids can be used in hydraulic systems that do not pose any requirements as to wear protection.</td>
<td>HL fluids may be used only for components whose product data sheet specifically allows HL fluids. For components which have not been approved according to the product data sheet, please consult your Bosch Rexroth sales partner. Hydraulic fluids that only comply with the requirements of classes HL and HR in accordance with ISO 11158 without proving that DIN 51524-1 is also met may be used only with written approval of Bosch Rexroth AG. Observe restrictions as to pressure, rotation speed etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLP fluids according to DIN 51524-2 VI = 100</td>
<td>Hydraulic fluid with corrosion, oxidation and verified wear protection additives</td>
<td>HLP fluids are suitable for most fields of application and components provided the temperature and viscosity provisions are observed.</td>
<td>For information on approved components, please refer to the respective product data sheet. For components which have not been approved according to the product data sheet, please consult your Bosch Rexroth sales partner. For the viscosity classes VG10, VG15 and VG22, DIN 51524 defines no requirements as to wear protection (DIN 51354 part 2 and DIN 51389 part 2). Beyond the requirements of DIN 51524 part 2, we require the same base oil type, identical refining procedure, identical additivation and identical additivation level across all viscosity classes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Table 4: Classification and fields of application (continued from page 7)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Features</th>
<th>Typical field of application</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HVLP fluids according to DIN 51524-3, VI &gt; 140</td>
<td>HLP hydraulic fluid with additional improved viscosity temperature behavior</td>
<td>HVLP fluids are used in systems operated over a wide temperature range.</td>
<td>For information on approved components, please refer to the respective product data sheet. For components which have not been approved according to the product data sheet, please consult your Bosch Rexroth sales partner. The same notes and restrictions as defined for HLP fluids apply accordingly. The effect on Rexroth components (e.g. compatibility with material seals, wear resistance capacity) may differ when using related hydrocarbons instead of mineral oils, cf. Table 6, line 8. When using HVLP fluids, the viscosity may change on account of the shear of the long-chain VI enhancers. The viscosity index, high at the start, decreases during operation. This needs to be taken into account when selecting the hydraulic fluid. The only value at present that can be used to assess viscosity changes in operation is the result of the test in accordance with DIN 51350 part 6. Please note that there are practical applications that create a much higher shear load on such fluids than can be achieved by this test. Up to VI &lt; 160, we recommend a maximum permitted viscosity drop of 15 %, viscosity at 100 °C. The viscosity limits given by Bosch Rexroth for its components are to be observed for all operating conditions, even after the hydraulic fluids have sheared. HVLP fluids should be used only if required by the temperature ranges of the application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLPD fluids according to DIN 51524-2, HVLPD fluids in accordance with DIN 51524-3</td>
<td>HLP and HVLP hydraulic fluid with additional detergent and or dispersant additives</td>
<td>HLPD and HVLPD fluids are used in systems where deposits as well as solid or liquid contamination need to be kept temporarily suspended</td>
<td>For information on approved components, please refer to the respective product data sheet. For components which have not been approved according to the product data sheet, please consult your Bosch Rexroth sales partner. Some of these fluids are able to absorb significant quantities of water (&gt; 0.1 %). This may have negative implications for the wear protection and the aging properties of the fluid. The wetting ability of these fluids varies largely depending on the product. Therefore it is not correct to say that they are generally all very well able to prevent stick-slip. In individual cases where higher water contamination is to be expected (such as in steelworks or under humid conditions), the use of HLPD/HVLPD fluids cannot be recommended as the emulsified water does not settle in the reservoir but is evaporated in heavily loaded positions. For such cases, we recommend using HLP hydraulic fluids with particularly good demulsifying ability. The water collected at the reservoir bottom is to be drained regularly. If HLPD/HVLPD fluids are used, contamination does not settle. It rather remains suspended and needs to be filtered out or removed by appropriate draining systems. For this reason, the filter area must be increased. HLPD/HVLPD fluids may contain additives that in the long run are incompatible with plastics, elastomers and non-ferrous metals. Furthermore, these additives may lead to the premature clogging of hydraulic filters. Therefore, test the filterability and the selection of the filter material in consultation with the filter manufacturer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4 Hydraulic fluids in operation

4.1 General
The properties of hydraulic fluids can change continually during storage and operation.

Please note that the fluid standard DIN 51524 merely describes minimum requirements for hydraulic fluids in new condition at the time of filling into the bins. The operator of a hydraulic system must ensure that the hydraulic fluid remains in a utilizable condition throughout its entire period of use.

Deviations from the characteristic values are to be clarified with the lubricant manufacturer, the test labs or Bosch Rexroth.

Please note the following aspects in operation.

4.2 Storage and handling
Hydraulic fluids must be stored correctly in accordance with the instructions of the lubricant manufacturer. Avoid exposing the containers to lengthy periods of direct heat. Containers are to be stored in such a way that the risk of any foreign liquid or solid matter (e.g. water, foreign fluids or dust) ingestion into the inside of the container can be ruled out. After taking hydraulic fluids from the containers, these are immediately to be properly resealed.

Recommendation:
- Store containers in a dry, roofed place
- Store barrels on their sides
- Clean reservoir systems and machine reservoirs regularly

4.3 Filling of new systems
Usually, the cleanliness levels of the hydraulic fluids as delivered do not meet the requirements of our components. Hydraulic fluids must be filtered using an appropriate filter system to minimize solid particle contamination and water in the system.

As early as possible during test operation, new systems should be filled with the selected hydraulic fluid so as to reduce the risk of accidentally mixing the fluids (see chapter 4.5 "Mixing and compatibility of different hydraulic fluids"). Changing the hydraulic medium at a later point represents significant additional costs (see following chapter).

4.4 Hydraulic fluid changeover
Changeovers, in particular between hydraulic fluids with heavy metal-free and heavy metal-containing (generally zinc) additives, frequently lead to malfunctions, see chapter 3.1.10 "Additivation".

In the case of changeovers of the fluid in hydraulic systems, it is important to ensure compatibility of the new hydraulic fluid with the remainder of the previous hydraulic fluid. We recommend obtaining a written performance guarantee from the manufacturer or supplier of the new hydraulic fluid. The quantity of old fluid remaining should be minimized. Mixing hydraulic fluids should be avoided, see following chapter.

For information on changing over hydraulic fluids with different classifications please refer to VDMA 24314, VDMA 24569 and ISO 15380 appendix A.

Bosch Rexroth will not accept liability for any damage to its components resulting from inadequate hydraulic fluid changeovers!

4.5 Mixing and compatibility of different hydraulic fluids
If hydraulic fluids from different manufacturers or different types from the same manufacturer are mixed, gelling, silting and deposits may occur. These, in turn, may cause foaming, impaired air separation ability, malfunctions and damage to the hydraulic system.

If the fluid contains more than 2 % of another fluid then it is considered to be a mixture. Exceptions apply for water, see chapter 4.10 "Water".

Mixing with other hydraulic fluids is not generally permitted. This also includes hydraulic fluids with the same classification and from the market overview RE 90220-01. If individual lubricant manufacturers advertise miscibility and/or compatibility, this is entirely the responsibility of the lubricant manufacturer.

Bosch Rexroth customarily tests all components with mineral oil HLP before they are delivered.

Note: With connectible accessory units and mobile filtering systems, there is a considerable risk of non-permitted mixing of the hydraulic fluids!

Rexroth will not accept liability for any damage to its components resulting from mixing hydraulic fluids!

4.6 Re-additivation
Additives added at a later point in time such as colors, wear reducers, VI enhancers or anti-foam additives, may negatively affect the performance properties of the hydraulic fluid and the compatibility with our components and therefore are not permissible.

Rexroth will not accept liability for any damage to its components resulting from re-additivation!

4.7 Foaming behavior
Foam is created by rising air bubbles at the surface of hydraulic fluids in the reservoir. Foam that develops should collapse as quickly as possible.

Common hydraulic fluids in accordance with DIN 51524 are sufficiently inhibited against foam formation in new condition. On account of aging and adsorption onto surfaces, the defoamer concentration may decrease over time, leading to a stable foam.

Defoamers may be re-dosed only after consultation with the lubricant manufacturer and with his written approval.

Defoamers may affect the air separation ability.
4.8 Corrosion

The hydraulic fluid is to guarantee sufficient corrosion protection of components under all operating conditions, even in the event of impermissible water contamination.

During storage and operation, hydraulic fluid based on mineral oils with anti-corrosion additives protect components against water and "acidic" oil degradation products.

4.9 Air

Under atmospheric conditions, the hydraulic fluid contains dissolved air. In the negative pressure range, for instance in the suction pipe of the pump or downstream of control edges, this dissolved air may transform into undissolved air. The undissolved air content represents a risk of cavitation and of the diesel effect. This results in material erosion of components and increased hydraulic fluid aging.

With the correct measures, such as suction pipe and reservoir design, and an appropriate hydraulic fluid, air intake and separation can be positively influenced.

See also chapter 3.1.7 "Air separation ability (ASA)".

4.10 Water

Water contamination in hydraulic fluids can result from direct ingress or indirectly through condensation of water from the air due to temperature variations.

Water in the hydraulic fluid may result in wear or direct failure of hydraulic components. Furthermore, a high water content in the hydraulic fluid negatively affects aging and filterability and increases susceptibility to cavitation.

Undissolved water can be drained from the bottom of the reservoir. Dissolved water can be removed only by using appropriate measures. If the hydraulic system is used in humid conditions, preventive measures need to be taken, such as an air dehumidifier at the reservoir vent. During operation, the water content in all hydraulic fluids, determined according to the "Karl Fischer method" (see chapter 6 "Glossary") for all hydraulic fluids, is to be kept below 0.1% (1000 ppm). To ensure a long service life of both hydraulic fluids and components, Bosch Rexroth recommends that values below 0.05% (500 ppm) are permanently maintained.

To ensure a long service life for the hydraulic fluids and the components, we recommend that values below 0.05 % (500 ppm) are permanently maintained. Detergent and or dispersant hydraulic fluids (HLPD / HVLPD) are able to absorb (and keep suspended) more water. Prior to using these hydraulic fluids, please contact the lubricant manufacturer.

4.11 Fluid servicing, fluid analysis and filtration

Air, water, operating temperature influences and solid matter contamination will change the performance characteristics of hydraulic fluids and cause them to age.

To preserve the usage properties and ensure a long service life for hydraulic fluid and components, the monitoring of the fluid condition and a filtration adapted to the application requirements (draining and degassing if required) are indispensable.

The effort is higher in the case of unfavorable usage conditions, increased stress for the hydraulic system or high expectations as to availability and service life, see chapter 2 "Solid particle contamination and cleanliness level".

When commissioning a system, please note that the required minimum cleanliness level can frequently be attained only by flushing the system. Due to severe start-up contamination, it may be possible that a fluid and/or filter replacement becomes necessary after a short operating period (< 50 operating hours).

The hydraulic fluid must be replaced in regular intervals and tested by the lubricant manufacturer or recognized, accredited test labs. We recommend a reference analysis after commissioning.

The minimum data to be tested for analyses are:

- Viscosity at 40 °C and 100 °C
- Neutralization number NN (acid number AN)
- Water content (Karl-Fischer method)
- Particle measurement with evaluation according to ISO 4406 or mass of solid foreign substances with evaluation to EN 12662
- Element analysis (RFA (EDX) / ICP, specify test method)
- Comparison with new product or available trend analyses
- Assessment / evaluation for further use
- Also recommended: IR spectrum

Compared to the pure unused hydraulic fluid, the changed neutralization number NN (acid number AN) indicates how many aging products are contained in the hydraulic fluid. This value must be kept as low as possible. As soon as the trend analysis notes a significant increase in the acid number, the lubricant manufacturer should be contacted.

In case of warranty, liability or guarantee claims to Bosch Rexroth, service verification and/or the results of fluid analyses are to be provided.
5 Disposal and environmental protection

Hydraulic fluids based on mineral oil and related hydrocarbons are hazardous for the environment. They are subject to a special disposal obligation.

The respective lubricant manufacturers provide specifications on environmentally acceptable handling and storage. Please ensure that spilt or splashed fluids are absorbed with appropriate adsorbents or by a technique that prevents it contaminating water courses, the ground or sewerage systems.

It is also not permitted to mix fluids when disposing of hydraulic fluids. Regulations governing the handing of used oils stipulate that used oils are not to mixed with other products, e.g. substances containing halogen. Non-compliance will increase disposal costs. Comply with the national legal provisions concerning the disposal of the corresponding hydraulic fluid. Comply with the local safety data sheet of the lubricant manufacturer for the country concerned.
# 6 Other hydraulic fluids based on mineral oil and related hydrocarbons

## Table 6: Other hydraulic fluids based on mineral oils and related hydrocarbons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Serial number</th>
<th>Hydraulic fluids</th>
<th>Features / Typical field of application / Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1             | Hydraulic fluids with classification HL, HM, HV according to ISO 11158 | - Can be used without confirmation provided they are listed in the respective product data sheet and are compliant with DIN 51524. Conformity with DIN 51524 must be verified in the technical data sheet of the fluid concerned. For classification see Table 4: "Hydraulic fluid classification".  
- Fluids only classified in accordance with ISO 11158 may be used only with prior written approval of Bosch Rexroth AG. |
| 2             | Hydraulic fluids with classification HH, HR, HS, HG according to ISO 11158 | - May not be used. |
| 3             | Hydraulic fluids with classification HL, HLP, HLPD, HVLP, HVLPD to DIN 51502 | - DIN 51502 merely describes how fluids are classified / designated on a national level.  
- It contains no information on minimum requirements for hydraulic fluids.  
- Hydraulic fluids standardized according to DIN 51502 can be used without confirmation provided they are listed in the respective product data sheet and are compliant with DIN 51524. Conformity with DIN 51524 must be verified in the technical data sheet of the fluid concerned. For classification see Table 4: "Hydraulic fluid classification". |
| 4             | Hydraulic fluids with classification HH, HL, HM, HR, HV, HS, HG according to ISO 6743-4 | - ISO 6743-4 merely describes how fluids are classified / designated on an international level. It contains no information on minimum requirements for hydraulic fluids.  
- Hydraulic fluids standardized according to ISO 6743-4 can be used without confirmation provided they are listed in the respective product data sheet and are compliant with DIN 51524. Conformity with DIN 51524 must be verified in the technical data sheet of the fluid concerned. For classification see Table 4: "Hydraulic fluid classification". |
| 5             | Lubricants and regulator fluids for turbines to DIN 51515-1 and -2 | - Turbine oils can be used after confirmation and with limited performance data.  
- They usually offer lower wear protection than mineral oil HLP. Classification of turbine oils to DIN 51515-1 comparable to HL, turbine oils to DIN 51515-2 comparable to HLP.  
- Particular attention must be paid to material compatibility! |
| 6             | Lube oils C, CL, CLP in accordance with DIN 51517 | - Lube oils in acc. with DIN 51517 can be used after confirmation and with limited performance data. They are mostly higher-viscosity fluids with low wear protection. Classification: CL similar to HL fluids and CLP similar to HLP fluids.  
- Particular attention must be paid to material compatibility, specifically with non-ferrous metals! |
| 7             | Fluids to be used in pharmaceutical and foodstuff industries, in acc. with FDA / USDA / NSF H1 | - There are medical white oils and synthetic hydrocarbons (PAO).  
- Can only be used after consultation and approval for use in the specific application, even if they are compliant with DIN 51624.  
- May be used only with FKM seals.  
- Other fluids used in pharmaceutical and foodstuff industries may be used only after confirmation.  
- Attention is to be paid to material compatibility in accordance with the applicable food law.  
**Caution!** Fluids used in pharmaceutical and foodstuff industries should not be confused with environmentally acceptable fluids! |

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| 8             | Hydraulic fluids of classes HVLP and HVLDP based on related hydrocarbons         | - Can only be used after consultation and approval for use in the specific application, even if they are compliant with DIN 51524.  
- Lower pour point than HLP  
- Other wetting (polarity)                                                              |
| 9             | Automatic Transmission Fluids (ATF)                                              | - ATF are operating fluids for automatic gearboxes in vehicles and machines. In special cases, ATFs are also used for certain synchronous gearboxes and hydraulic systems comprising gearboxes.  
- To be used only after confirmation!  
- Some of these fluids have poor air separation abilities and modified wear properties.  
- Check material compatibility and filterability!                                      |
| 10            | Multi-purpose oil (MFO) – Industry                                               | - Multi-purpose oils (industry) combine at least two requirements for a fluid, for instance metal machining and hydraulics.  
- To be used only after confirmation!  
- Please pay particular attention to air separation ability, modified wear properties and the reduced material life cycle.  
- Check material compatibility and filterability!                                    |
| 11            | Multi-purpose oils (MFO) – Mobil UTTO, STOU                                      | - Multi-purpose oils combine requirements for wet brakes, gearboxes, motor oil (STOU only) and hydraulics.  
- Fluids of the types:  
  - UTTO (= universal tractor transmission oil) and  
  - STOU (= Super Tractor super tractor universal oil)  
- To be used only after confirmation!  
- Please pay particular attention to shear stability, air separation ability and modified wear properties.  
- Check material compatibility and filterability!                                    |
| 12            | Single-grade engine oils 10W, 20W, 30W                                            | - To be used only after confirmation!  
- Please pay particular attention to the air separation ability and filtering ability. |
| 13            | Multi-grade engine oils 0Wx-30Wx                                                 | - To be used only after confirmation!  
- Please pay particular attention to air separation ability, changes in wear protection capability, viscosity changes during operation, material compatibility, dispersant and detergent properties and filterability.  
**Caution!** Multi-grade engine oils have been adapted to specific requirements in combustion engines and are suitable for use in hydraulic systems only to a limited extent. |
| 14            | Hydraulic fluids for military applications to MIL 13919 or H 540, MIL 46170 or H 544, MIL 5606 or H 515, MIL 83282 or H 537, MIL 87257 | - To be used only after confirmation!  
- Please pay particular attention to air separation ability, changes in wear protection capability, viscosity changes during operation, material compatibility, water separation capability and filterability.  
**Caution!** Hydraulic fluids for military applications do not meet the current requirements for high-quality hydraulic fluids and are suitable for use only to a limited degree. |
| 15            | Motor vehicle transmission oils                                                   | - Motor vehicle transmission oil can be used after confirmation and with limited performance data.  
- Pay particular attention to wear protection, material compatibility, specifically with non-ferrous metals, as well as viscosity! |

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| 16           | Diesel, test diesel in acc. with DIN 4113 | – Diesel / test diesel has poorer wear protection capabilities and a very low viscosity (< 3 mm²/s).  
– May be used only with FKM seals  
– Please note their low flash point!  
– To be used only after confirmation and with limited performance data! |
| 17           | Hydraulic fluids for roller processes | – Hydraulic fluids for roller processes have lower wear protection capabilities than mineral oil HLP and a lower viscosity  
– Please note their low flash point!  
– Hydraulic fluids for roller processes with limited performance data can be used only after confirmation. |
| 18           | Fluids for power steering, hydro-pneumatic suspension, active chassis etc. | – Can only be used after consultation and approval for use in the specific application, even if they are compliant with DIN 51524.  
– Please note the low viscosity!  
– In most cases they have poor water separation capability  
– Check the material compatibility! |
7 Glossary

Additivation
Additives are chemical substances added to the basic fluids to achieve or improve specific properties.

Aging
Hydraulic fluids age due to oxidation (see chapter 3.1.5 “Aging resistance”). Liquid and solid contamination acts as a catalyst for aging, meaning that it needs to be minimized as far as possible by careful filtration.

API classification
Classification of basic fluids by the American Petroleum Institute (API) – the largest association representing the US oil and gas industry.

Arrhenius equation
The quantitative relation between reaction rate and temperature is described by an exponential function, the Arrhenius equation. This function is usually visualized within the typical temperature range of the hydraulic system. For a practical example, see chapter 3.1.5 “Aging resistance”.

Related hydrocarbons
Related hydrocarbons are hydrocarbon compounds that are not classified as API class 1, 2 or 5.

Basic fluids
In general, a hydraulic fluid is made up of a basic fluid, or base oil, and chemical substances, the so-called additives. The proportion of basic fluid is generally greater than 90%.

Demulsifying
Ability of a fluid to separate water contamination quickly; achieved with careful selection of base oil and additives.

Detergent
Ability of certain additives to emulsify part of the water contamination in the oil or to hold it in suspension until it has evaporated with increasing temperature. Larger water quantities, in contrast (above approx. 2 %), are separated immediately.

Dispersant
Ability of certain additives to keep insoluble liquid and solid contamination in suspension in the fluid.

Diesel effect
If hydraulic fluid that contains air bubbles is compressed quickly, the bubbles are heated to such a degree that a self-ignition of the air-gas mix may occur. The resultant temperature increase may lead to seal damage and increased aging of the hydraulic fluid.

Hydraulic fluids based on mineral oils
Hydraulic fluids based on mineral oils are made from petroleum (crude oil).

ICP (atomic emission spectroscopy)
The ICP procedure can be used to determine various wear metals, contamination types and additives. Practically all elements in the periodic system can be detected with this method.

Karl Fischer method
Method to determine the water content in fluids. Indirect coulometric determination procedure in accordance with DIN EN ISO 12937 in connection with DIN 51777-2. Only the combination of both standards will assure adequately accurate measured values.

Cavitation
Cavitation is the creation of cavities in fluids due to pressure reduction below the saturated vapour pressure and subsequent implosion when the pressure increases. When the cavities implode, extremely high acceleration, temperatures and pressure may occur temporarily, which may damage the component surfaces.

Neutralization number (NN)
The neutralization number (NN) or acid number (AN) specifies the amount of caustic potash required to neutralize the acid contained in one gram of fluid.

Pour point
The lowest temperature at which which the fluid still just flows when cooled down under set conditions. The pour point is specified in the lubricant manufacturers’ technical data sheets as a reference value for achieving this flow limit.

RFA (wavelength dispersive x-ray fluorescence analysis)
Is a procedure to determine nearly all elements in liquid and solid samples with nearly any composition. This analysis method is suitable for examining additives and contamination, delivering fast results.

Shearing/shear loss
Shearing of molecule chains during operation can change the viscosity of hydraulic fluids with long chain VI enhancers. The initially high viscosity index drops. This needs to be taken into account when selecting the hydraulic fluid.

The only value at present that can be used to assess viscosity changes in operation is the result of the test in accordance with DIN 51350 part 6. Please note that there are practical applications that create a much higher shear load on such hydraulic fluids than can be achieved by this test.

Stick-slip effect (sliding)
Interaction between a resilient mass system involving friction (such as cylinder + oil column + load) and the pressure increase at very low sliding speeds. The static friction of the system is a decisive value here. The lower it is, the lower the speed that can still be maintained without sticking. Depending on the tribologic system, the stick-slip effect may lead to vibrations generated and sometimes also to significant noise emission. In many cases, the effect can be attenuated by replacing the lubricant.

Viscosity
Viscosity is the measure of the internal friction of a fluid to flow. It is defined as the property of a substance to flow under tension. Viscosity is the most important characteristic for describing the load-bearing capacity of a hydraulic fluid.

Kinematic viscosity is the ratio of the dynamic viscosity and the density of the fluid; the unit is mm²/s. Hydraulic fluids are classified by their kinematic viscosity into ISO viscosity classes. The reference temperature for this is 40 °C.

Viscosity index (VI)
Refers to the viscosity temperature behavior of a fluid. The lower the change of viscosity in relation the temperature, the higher the VI.
No statements concerning the suitability of a hydraulic fluid for a specific purpose can be derived from our information. The information given does not release the user from the obligation of own judgment and verification.

It must be remembered that our products are subject to a natural process of wear and aging.

Subject to change.