

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20234

National Bureau of Standards Certificate

Standard Sample 1064

Mercuric Cyclohexanebutyrate

(Standard for Determination of Mercury in Petroleum Products)

This compound was prepared to insure material that is essentially free from other metals and has suitable solubility, compatibility, and uniformity for use in the preparation of a standard of mercury in lubricating oils. The compound is certified to one part per hundred of mercury, and every effort should be made to maintain a uniform procedure by following the directions in this certificate.

CHEMICAL AND SPECTROGRAPHIC ANALYSES

Procedure and Results of Chemical Analysis

Mercury, percent..... 36.2

Mercury was determined in a 1-g sample (dried for 2 hr over phosphorus pentoxide) by titration with ammonium thiocyanate, after extraction of organic matter with chloroform. Determinations were also made by extracting a dried 1-g sample with chloroform, precipitating the mercury with hydrogen sulfide, drying the precipitate at 110 °C, and weighing as HgS. Analyst, B. B. Bendigo.

Procedure and Results of Spectrographic Analysis

The compound was examined spectrographically for metallic impurities. A 5-mg sample of the compound was excited in a direct-current arc and the photographed spectrum was examined for the characteristic lines of 51 elements. Several impurities were found, but none is considered to be present in sufficient concentration to interfere with the intended use. The principal impurities are sodium, magnesium, and silicon, estimated to be 0.01 percent or less. Analyst, Elizabeth K. Hubbard.

STABILITY.—Tests show that standard lubricating-oil solutions of this compound with concentrations of mercury up to 500 ppm are stable for several weeks when prepared by the directions given below.

COMPATIBILITY.—Lubricating-oil solutions of this compound have been found to be compatible with lubricating-oil solutions of the other compounds in this series. Blends of several different compounds have been prepared by the procedures given in the certificates for the other compounds. (Tests have not been carried out to insure compatibility with the various additives that may be in the oils to be analyzed.)

DIRECTIONS FOR PREPARING LUBRICATING-OIL SOLUTIONS OF MERCURIC CYCLOHEXANEBUTYRATE

Transfer approximately 0.2 g of this compound from the bottle to a small beaker and dry over fresh phosphorus pentoxide in a desiccator for 2 hr. (Tightly close the bottle containing the remainder of the compound.) Quickly and accurately transfer 0.138 g of this dried salt to a weighed 200-ml flask. (This weight of salt is equivalent to 50 mg of mercury.) Add 3 ml of xylene and 5 ml of 2-ethylhexanoic acid and heat the flask on a water bath, with swirling, until a clear solution forms. Add to the hot solution 80 to 90 ml of lubricating oil and gently shake the flask to mix the contents. Allow the flask to cool to room temperature and add enough lubricating oil to bring the total weight of the contents of the flask to 100 ± 0.5 g. Stopper the flask and shake gently to insure a homogeneous solution. The concentration of mercury in this solution is 500 ppm.

A. V. ASTIN, *Director.*

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20234
April 24, 1964.