

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF STANDARDS

WASHINGTON

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
BUREAU OF STANDARDS  
O.S. B.M.

IN YOUR REPLY  
REFER TO FILE NO.  
III-8/LC-368

Subject Tests on Lubricants and  
Liquid Fuels.

Acknowledgment is made of your letter of requesting that the Bureau of Standards make some tests for you. It is regretted that the Bureau is not in a position to make the tests which you desire for the reasons outlined in the inclosed letter circular. It is believed, however, that the following commercial testing laboratories are in a position to make such tests:

Respectfully,

BUREAU OF STANDARDS.

Inclosure



(April 13, 1933)

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ROUTINE TESTING OF LUBRICANTS AND LIQUID FUELS

Most large commercial organizations maintain control laboratories to test the quality of the products which they purchase. In a similar way, the Federal Government maintains at the Bureau of Standards laboratories for the routine testing of products which are submitted by the various Government departments. Such tests on lubricants and liquid fuels are made to determine whether the product submitted by the lowest bidder passes the Federal Specifications covering the purchase of this product. This laboratory does not make routine tests on lubricants and liquid fuels except in connection with purchases by the departments and independent establishments of the Federal Government, and occasionally for State and municipal governments.

Routine tests on lubricants and liquid fuels are not made for the public, for two reasons:

(1) A large number of commercial laboratories distributed throughout the country are equipped to make tests on petroleum products, and it is the general policy of the Bureau of Standards to avoid competition with these commercial laboratories. A list of such laboratories will be found in Bureau of Standards Miscellaneous Publication No. 90, obtainable from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., at a cost of 15 cents (stamps not accepted).

(2) Only sufficient personnel and facilities are available to make the tests requested by the Government departments.

In the case of a few specific tests on lubricants and liquid fuels, where commercial testing laboratories have not the necessary facilities, the Bureau of Standards will conduct these tests for the public on a fee basis. Standardization and referee tests are made likewise on a fee basis. The general policy of the Bureau of Standards with regard to testing, including an outline of the permissible and non-permissible tests which can be made according to this policy, will be found in letter circular LC 209 which is available on request to the Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C., without charge.





