



OEM BULLETIN

REFERENCE TO OEMS SPECIFICATIONS

The Union of the European Lubricant Industry (UEIL) is the umbrella association of the European Lubricants Industry, representing their members and, in particular, the interests of SMEs and independent lubricant companies. To date, the UEIL represents more than 450 lubricant companies, who manufacture and distribute lubricant products under their own various trademarks throughout the European Union. With members in more than 22 European Countries and a unique collective experience of lubricants and the lubricants market, UEIL is the sole representative body for independent manufacturers of lubricants in Europe and has been recognised as such by the European Commission. It is UEIL's policy to favour free and fair competition within the scope of prevailing EU and national laws.

Some months ago, UEIL was informed by several members that OEMs from three different sectors (Cars, Trucks, Engines and Power Systems) had stated that lubricant manufacturers had to get their products formally approved if they wished to refer to their specifications on Technical Data Sheets, packaging etc.

UEIL wrote to each OEM involved to draw its attention to the fact that, from a legal point of view:

- A lubricant manufacturer who produces a lubricant which fully meets the requirements of a technical specification can indicate on their documentation that the product meets this specification.
- An OEM cannot oblige a lubricant manufacturer to go through an approval procedure to be able to do so. It can only prevent a lubricant manufacturer from claiming their product has formal approval if it is not the case.

UEIL invited the OEMs concerned to amend without delay their communication on this issue, which they have all done.

If you face such behaviour from an OEM, please inform your national delegation who will contact UEIL. The case will then be studied by the Technical and Competition Committees.

Brussels, November 2016