

OEM BULLETIN

Bosch Rexroth Fluid Rating (RDE 90235)

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.

In September 2015 it came to the attention of UEIL that Bosch Rexroth had concluded a process begun in April 2015 to harmonise the fluid rating system (RDE 90235) used by the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) across its premium and basic product ranges.

On consideration of RDE 90235 the Technical Committee (TC) of UEIL concluded that whilst the system had versions for Fire Resistant and Environmentally Acceptable Fluids there was no version applicable to Conventional Hydraulic Fluids.

Subsequently, UEIL directed letters in October 2015 to three oil additive companies (Adcos) requesting advice as to whether they had formulations, or intended to develop formulations, that would enable a blender to submit a finished product to the OEM that would meet the technical requirements demanded by RDE 90235.

UEIL received responses from two of the Adcos in 2015 informing the association that they were actively working to produce formulations to meet RDE 90235's requirements.

UEIL followed-up with the Adcos concerned in February 2017 requesting an update on their progress in producing a suitable formulation. In response to this letter UEIL received confirmations from both Adcos that they had both succeeded in producing an approved hydraulic additive technology to the RDE 90235 specification.

With two formulations being supplied to the market to the required specification UEIL's concerns have been allayed.

Brussels, May 2018