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TECHNICAL BULLETIN ISSUE #2 - September 2010 FIAT GROUP - CNH

The Independent Union of the European Lubricant Industry (UEIL) is the umbrella association of the Independent European Lubricants Industry, representing their members and, in particular, the interests of SMEs and independent lubricant companies. To date, the UEIL represents more than 400 lubricant companies, who manufacture and distribute lubricant products under their own various trademarks throughout the European Union. With members in more than 19 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.

For several decades there has been confusion about the correct lubricant to use in this Original Equipment Manufacturer's transmissions & whether the end user could experience warranty problems if using a product supplied by a UEIL member company. Despite the best endeavours of UEIL, National Delegations, & various Independent Blenders to date it has been impossible to progress this issue.

Whilst the Engine Oil Recommendation in an owner's handbook stated "Case No.1 Engine Oil, Multi Viscosity, Premium MS 1121, or MS 1120, or oil meeting API grades CG-4 or CF-4, for the Transmission/Hydraulic System the owner's handbook simply stated "Case HY-TRAN[®] ULTRA.

Therefore the Automotive Committee of UEIL wrote to the OEM requesting "Please could you confirm that when our members produce a lubricant as detailed above, that they will not automatically encounter any Warranty problems simply for not using a product such as Case IH branded Ackcela Hy-Tran Ultra?"

The "lubricant as detailed above" is based on a formulation proposed by one of the largest Additive Companies in the world who stated "Company X have run back to back tests Additive Y v High Tran Ultra – seen equal performance; also many years ago ran field trial plus we know that Additive Y has been used in Case tractors with no problems.

We therefore say that Additive Y is suitable for use where Case MS 1209 (and 1207 as 1209 is back serviceable) is referenced"

After correspondence lasting nearly 2 years & eventually involving the Chairman of the Fiat Group, CNH have written "we can advise that simply using a different but suitable lubricant will not invalidate the warranty of the unit. However, for warranty repairs we would require the use of our products as CNH is paying the cost".

The Automotive Committee is responsible for monitoring all technical and supply chain developments, which could affect members of UEIL. It actively participates in the meetings of ATIEL and has regular contact with various industry bodies, such as ACEA, ATC, ELGI and the OEMs etc.

The Competition Committee aims to provide constructive input to the EU institutions to ensure the development of efficient and balanced competition policies that reflect the needs of both business & consumers

Brussels, September 2010