

Acid Number

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Lubricants are in a continuous reactive process with oxygen which results in the production of organic oxidants that are acidic in nature. With the higher temperatures that exist within an engine or other component, reaction rates are much greater. Carefully monitoring the acid number is an advanced and effective method of oil analysis.



Acid Number is an excellent diagnostic and predictive test for:

- Hydraulics
- Gearboxes
- Compressors
- Natural Gas Engines

The Acid Number (AN) measurement detects both weak organic acids and strong inorganic acids. Fluctuations in the acid concentration of an oil can originate from sources such as:

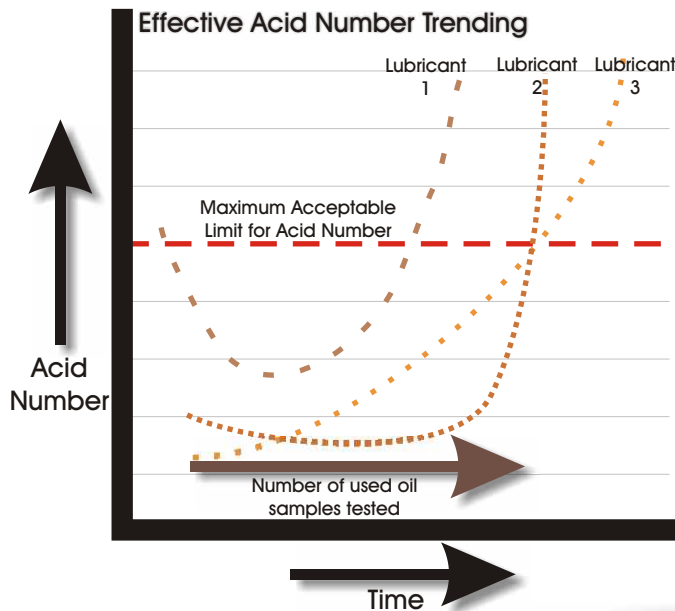
- Oxidation by-products.
- Acidic contaminants.
- Incorrect oil or additives.

An elevated acid number can result in:

- Component corrosion, more severe if water is present.
- Deposits of tars and lacquers on metal surfaces.
- Increased viscosity resulting in pumping losses.
- A gradual increase in the rate of AN elevation.

Acid Number Trending

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Trending is the best way to monitor an abnormal increase in the acid number. Regular testing will provide the necessary data to formulate the most identifiable trends occurring within the lubricating system.

Acid Number (AN) is measured and quantified by the weight in milligrams of potassium hydroxide (KOH) required to neutralize all the acidic constituents in one gram of lubricating oil. Also known as Neutralization Number. (Previously known as Total Acid Number (TAN))



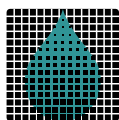
Maintenance Solutions

Once the maintenance technician has the testing information to determine if there is wear metals or contaminants within a component a course of action can be determined.

If these conditions exist the maintenance professional could:

- ✓ Increase frequency of oil change intervals.
- ✓ Modify the maintenance schedule based on the run time of the specific component.

...because what happens on the inside really counts



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