



OIL CONDITION MONITORING  
YOUR FUEL MANAGEMENT PARTNER



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# Oil Condition Monitoring

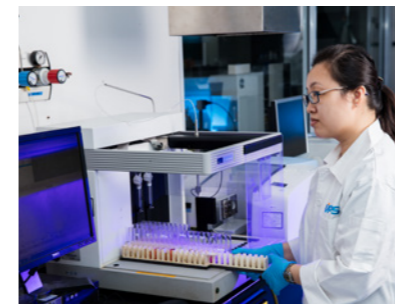
VPS IS THE MOST TRUSTED  
NAME IN THE GLOBAL  
MARINE TESTING INDUSTRY.  
OUR TRULY INDEPENDENT  
AND IMPARTIAL POSITION  
MAKES VPS THE LOGICAL  
CHOICE FOR OIL CONDITION  
MONITORING.

## OIL CONDITION MONITORING - LUBRICATING OIL

The main function of lubricating oil is to reduce friction and wear, cool parts and form seals. Lubricants also absorb shock loads, dampen noise and act as cleaning agents. Degradation of the lubricating oil occurs naturally over time as the protective additives are consumed and engine breakdown products build up. By testing the oil, diagnosing the results and trending this data over time, valuable information on the condition of the engine may be obtained. This allows the early detection of lubricant deterioration and identification of unusual mechanical engine wear, enabling proactive action to prevent breakdown. Oil Condition Monitoring (OCM) provides an early warning system helping to avoid costly engine failure and downtime and therefore has an important role in preventive maintenance programmes.

In the global marine industry engine performance and reliability is extremely important. OCM provides two principal benefits - it reduces engine failure and downtime and extends the lifetime of the lubricant, resulting in substantial savings on repair overhaul cost and usage of lubricating oil. Regularly scheduled lubricant testing and expert advice provides our marine clients with comprehensive information on the condition of the lubricating oil and the health of the engine and other equipment. This information can then be used to replace the lubricating oil before it fails, optimising usage and to identify mechanical engine problems and mitigate costly engine failure and unscheduled maintenance. Testing a sample of lubricant to assess the health of an engine or equipment is similar to testing a sample of blood to assess the health of a patient.

The OCM report includes information on lubricant quality for ship engines and other equipment based on a number of tests including viscosity, flashpoint, Total Base Number (TBN), Total Acid Number (TAN), water content, particle count and wear metals. The report captures the previous test results and the analysis of this data, trending, and technical comments assist



the ship-owner or operator in making decision on whether to continue the use of the lubricant or make partial / complete renewal, thus optimising performance since complete renewal of an engine oil is a costly affair because a large engine may contain thousands of litres of oil in its sump. In practice, the oil remains in the sump as long as the quality permits, with fresh oil added from time to time to compensate for the losses. Using our data we can benchmark lubricant performance on behalf of our clients, reviewing consumption or other parameters against sister vessels using the same lubricant.

Monitoring oil condition maximises the life of the lubricant and minimizes the oil related machinery damage. With its global network of offices and technical experts integrated with four ISO 17025-accredited, wholly-owned testing laboratories located worldwide, VPS can assist clients with expert and impartial advice on the oil usage and identify any tell-tale signs of major damage so that preventive measures can be taken.

## PARTNER WITH VPS FOR PROVEN SUCCESS:

- **Market leader with impeccable track record of over 30 years**

VPS has years of experience in fuel quality testing as well as testing lubricating oil for engine makers, power plants, the aerospace industry and DNV GL Condition Assessment Programme machinery surveys

- **Strong global team with extensive lubricating oil experience**

VPS is actively involved in testing oil samples and provides expert advice

- **Independent third party analysis**

VPS does not sell lubricating oil. Hence, there is no conflict of interest and the expert advice on the oil usage is impartial

- **Independent assessor**

VPS is an independent assessor. Such assessment carries value in a damage investigation, especially in a warranty claim situation

- **Early identification of damage to reduce downtime**

VPS assists clients in identifying signs of damage at an early stage so that the operators can take preventive measures and avoid costly breakdowns and repairs



- **Trending analysis**

Comprehensive report with trending analysis and tailor-made comments by our expert technical advisers

- **Competitive and market oriented pricing structure**

VPS has a comprehensive package suitable for damage investigation. It also has the flexibility to be adapted to routine Condition Monitoring or combined with Fuel Quality Testing as a package

- **Highest quality**

VPS labs are equipped with sophisticated, state-of-the-art testing instruments and strict quality controls are in place to maintain the highest accuracy in test results

- **Global Footprint**

VPS operates a global network of offices and technical experts integrated with four ISO 17025-accredited, wholly-owned testing laboratories located in Rotterdam, Singapore, Houston and Fujairah.

- **Seamless Transportation**

Seamless transportation of samples is ensured by our global collection points