



Complete and accurate customer, equipment and sample information greatly increases the value of oil analysis. The more information an analyst has with which to evaluate results, the better his or her comments and recommendations for maintenance action will be.

This information is also important to the person receiving the results. Knowing your equipment and the lubricants you are using and sharing that information with your laboratory will give you more for your oil analysis dollar allowing for more in-depth analysis and eliminating the confusion and difficulties that can occur when trying to interpret your results and recommendations.

The descriptions below explain in detail the importance of including this information with each sample you submit for testing.

Unit Type should give as much detail as possible. **What kind of compressor, gearbox, engine, etc.** influences flagging parameters and depth of analysis. Different metallurgies require different lubrication and have great impact on how results are interpreted.

Equipment ID is each customer's opportunity to uniquely identify units being tested and their location.

Application identifies in what type of environment the equipment operates and is useful in determining exposure to possible contaminants.

Severity Status Levels:
 0—Normal
 1—At least one or more items have violated initial flagging points yet are still considered minor.
 2—A trend is developing.
 3—Simple maintenance and/or diagnostics are recommended.
 4—Failure is eminent if maintenance not performed.
 Occasionally, a test result can violate the S4 excursion level. But, if there is no supporting data or a clear indicator of what is actually happening within the unit, maintenance action may not be recommended. Customer may be asked to investigate all possible contamination sources, shorten sampling intervals, or simply monitor the situation very closely.

Make note of the difference between the **Date Sampled** and the **Date Received** by the lab. Turnaround issues may point to storing samples too long before mailing or mail service problems.

Manufacturer and Model can also identify metallurgies involved as well as the OEM's standard maintenance guidelines and possible wear patterns to expect.

Lube Manufacturer, Type and Grade identifies a lube's properties and its viscosity and is critical in determining if the right lube is being used.

Filter Types and their **Micron Ratings** are important in analyzing particle count—the higher the micron rating, the higher the particle count results.

Sump Capacity identifies the total volume of oil (in gallons) in which wear metals are suspended and is critical to trending wear metal concentrations.

Lube Time is how long the oil has been used. **Unit Time** is the age of the equipment and **Lube Added** is how much oil has been added since the last sample was taken.

The laboratory at which testing was completed is denoted by an **I** for **Indianapolis** and an **H** for **Houston**. The following **Lab #** is assigned to the sample upon entry for processing and should be the reference number used when notifying the lab with questions or concerns.

Customer Account Number

Data Analyst Initials