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RSI BULLETIN #R-027

FROM: Daniel C. Ludwig

DATE: April 5, 1995

SUBJECT: ASTM Sequence VE with Dual Plug Head; MTAC

This bulletin is for information purposes and is not intended to supersede or precede ASTM TMC information letters or memorandum.

This bulletin highlights recent ASTM Sequence VE Surveillance Panel action regarding the use of dual plug heads with fuel batch 43, and informs sponsors that replicate test data conducted with and without dual plug heads will not be segregated for MTAC. There is a limited time that the single head plugs may be used.

On March 28, 1995 the ASTM Sequence VE Surveillance Panel approved the immediate use of dual plug heads using batch 43 fuel only. Since the test fuel and dual plug heads were approved simultaneously, test labs must properly segregate and match fuel batch to cylinder head configuration.

The ASTM Test Monitoring Center will use separate control charts for this configuration, resulting in separate determination of laboratory severity adjustments. All candidate tests using dual plug heads and batch 43 fuel must be conducted on stands that are calibrated in accord to the requirements of the ASTM Test Monitoring Center.

The sponsor may request testing on single or dual plug heads, but the labs must use separate databases to determine the next available calibrated stand in accord to the CMA Code of Practice. Eligibility to start tests with single plug heads ceases after midnight (lab's local time), May 31, 1995, and all Sequence VE tests started on or after June 1, 1995 must start with the dual plug heads and, of course, batch 43 fuel. For detailed information, refer to the ASTM TMC information letter when issued.

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The ASTM Sequence VE Surveillance Panel will recommend that replicate data conducted on both single and dual plug heads should not be segregated for MTAC calculations. Consequently, there are no changes regarding formulation/stand codes. If there are future needs to study candidate data generated from dual plug heads, RSI can sort and identify these tests by fuel batch, i.e., batch 43 can only be used with dual plug heads.