



Tech Tips

PAG Confusion

There is confusion as to why we offer four different PAG lubricants. The Original Equipment Manufacturers require certain viscosities for their products. We offer four viscosities to meet these requirements.

Most technicians use the term “viscosity” when referring to a liquid’s tendency to pour, but the term for synthetic oil is “centistoke”. Centistoke and viscosity have virtually the same meaning.

The four viscosities we offer are 46, 100, 125, and 150 centistoke. The smaller the number, the easier the lubricant tends to pour. A 46 centistoke is lighter than a 100 centistoke. Many times, the 46 grade is referred to as the ‘light weight’, the 100 as the ‘middle weight’, and the 150 as the ‘heavy weight’. The 125 is a special lubricant for the OEM Delphi-Harrison V5. General Motors determined that when the OEM V5 compressor is retrofitted, the system requires a specially formulated PAG lubricant.

The 46 centistoke lubricant is used on many Nippon-Denso style compressors. This includes many of the Ford and Chrysler compressors. The 150 centistoke lubricant is used primarily on the Delphi-Harrison compressors (General Motors). The 100 centistoke lubricant is used on several import and aftermarket compressors.