Intelligent Lubrication Solutions®

Equipped for the New Industry Standard: GF-6

New motor oil standards providing enhanced protection to the end-consumer

The automotive industry continues to advance as new vehicles are introduced. As of May 1, 2020, two new motor oil standards were implemented by ILSAC (International Lubricant Standardization and Approval Committee). The new standards, named GF-6A and GF-6B, improve fuel economy, engine life, and overall protection and cleanliness, among many other improvements. The ILSAC GF-6A standard will correspond with the American Petroleum Institute gasoline engine oil service category SP.

THRIVE continues to provide cutting edge formulations that meet or exceed the industry standards. Oil specifications are regularly monitored and upgraded to incorporate the latest engine hardware and its needs. At U.S. Lubricants, the official distributor of THRIVE products, we strive to offer the highest quality additives for optimal vehicle performance.

What to Expect
New industry standards improve performance and protection of the vehicle.
• Fuel economy and fuel economy retention
• Additional protection against aging and breakdown of oil
• Low-speed pre-ignition minimization
• Wear protection for idling
• Engine durability
• Piston cleanliness
• Chain wear protection

How to Identify GF-6

Oils that meet ILSAC GF-6A standard will display the “Starburst” API mark, which may be used on oils meeting GF-5 or earlier recommendations.

Oils that meet the API SP standard will feature the updated API “Donut” with the SP designation. These API SP approved oils can be used in all previous API service category applications

0W-16 oils that meet ILSAC GF-6B recommendations will display a new API mark, the “Shield,” and can be used where SAE 0W-16 oils are recommended.

Why Two Specifications

GF-6A is for 0W-20 and heavier viscosity grades.

ILSAC GF-6A is backward compatible with the existing ILSAC GF-x specifications.

GF-6B is specific to SAE 0W-16.

NOT backward compatible with the existing ILSAC GF-x specifications.
Commonly Asked Questions

What is GF-6?
GF-6A and GF-6B are the latest industry standards implemented by ILSAC to meet the needs of newer vehicles and new engine technology.

Why is GF-6 needed?
Vehicle manufacturers now require higher-quality oils to protect advanced technology and provide a greater contribution to the continued preference for higher fuel economy vehicles.

What is the transition plan from GF-5/API SN Plus?
GF-5/API SN Plus motor oils will begin to phase out of distribution as inventory depletes, at that time U.S. Lubricants will transition to blending and distributing GF-6A/API SP products. A communication will be announced once a majority of our inventory has been converted to GF-6A/API SP approved oil. Please note that GF-6A/API SP motor oils are required to be backwards compatible, meaning API SP approved motor oils can be used in applications calling for older GF-x/API specified oils.

How do I know if my vehicle requires an ILSAC GF-6A or GF-6B motor oil?
Vehicles requiring the new ILSAC specifications will not be on the market until at least 2021. However, some updated online owner’s manuals may show the change sooner. If the vehicle previously called for ILSAC GF-x, the GF-6A standards are compatible. ILSAC GF-6B can be used to meet SAE 0W-16 recommendations.

For more information on the transition, please contact your business consultant or call our customer service team at 1.800.490.4900

About U.S. Lubricants
U.S. Lubricants is a leading lubrication solutions provider offering a wide range of lubricants, lubrication services, and reliability programs for industrial, commercial, and automotive businesses. For more information, visit www.uslube.com