

Company Lubriage Ltd T/A Mannol UK & Ireland
Brand Mannol
Product Central Hydraulic Fluid 8990

Case No VLS010190

14/06/2023 This case was accepted by VLS

13/12/2023 VLS received a complaint about the above product which is detailed below;
 To ensure safe operation of a brake systems at low temperatures, a kinematic viscosity value at -40°C (DIN 51562-1 method) is stated in the following specifications:
 VW TL 52 146 00: ≤1100 cSt.
 VW TL 52 146 01: ≤1400 cSt.
 Mannol Central Hydraulic Fluid (CHF) makes a claim against Volkswagen specification TL 52 146 on the container and supporting technical data sheet. The Complainant tested the product and achieved a value of 1738.8 cSt. This value is in excess of the specification requirements and therefore could impair the performance of the braking system at low temperatures, which could have safety implications.

The packaging and TDS also suggests that the product can be used in place of Pentosin CHF-11S. Although this is a product and not a specification, there is a KV@-40°C figure of ≤1100 cSt shown on Pentosin technical data sheets. Therefore, if Mannol CHF was used in Pentosin CHF-11S applications where there is a critical low temperature requirement, the system would not function effectively, with the possibility of poor brake/suspension/power steering performance, resulting in safety issues.

The following specifications / part numbers claim to be equivalent to Pentosin CHF11S and should therefore have the same low temperature performance characteristics and requirements:

Volvo 1161529-1
 Ford WSS-M2C204-A
 Fendt X 902.011.622
 MB 345.0
 VAG G 002 000

In summary, the Complainant alleged that Mannol CHF does not meet the Kinematic Viscosity (KV) -40°C limits stated in the quoted specifications referenced above. The failure to comply could compromise vehicle safety.

VLS reviewed the complaint, procured a sample of the product and tested it for Kinematic Viscosity (KV) -40°C. The findings are in line with that of the Complainant, that the product does not meet the VW specifications and is not compliant. The summary test results are as follows:-

Test Method Specification DIN 51562-1	Test KV -40°C, cSt
VW TL 52 146 00 specification	≤ 1100
VW TL 52 146 01 specification	≤ 1400
VLS Sample procured and tested	2610
Complainant Sample Test Result Claimed	1738.8

VLS did not receive a response to the complaint from the Named Party and so VLS is reporting that the product is non-compliant and does not meet its stated performance claims in full.
 The case is subject to a six month review in line with VLS's stated processes and if found to be non-compliant at this stage, it will be reported to Trading Standards.