



LabCheck
Analytical Lubricant Solutions

PRESS RELEASE

20th August, 2010

Castrol launches LabCheck used oil condition monitoring programme

CASTROL OFFSHORE HAS LAUNCHED A NEW OIL TEST SERVICE, DEVELOPED SPECIFICALLY WITH THE NEEDS OF THE OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY IN MIND.

The new service will be unveiled at ONS in Stavanger, the world's leading oil and energy industry meeting, later this month. It allows lube oil or hydraulic oil onboard a drilling platform to be sent in for analysis of characteristics including wear metals, contaminants, oil condition and additives.

Castrol LabCheck monitors a wide range of equipment and machinery as part of a scheduled used oil analysis - a prerequisite of many Classification Societies. The service provides consistent high quality and fast analysis to help operators maximise equipment performance and minimise downtime.

Tony Globe, Business Development Manager for Castrol Energy Lubricants, said: "Castrol LabCheck gives operators greater control over maintenance tasks and helps schedules to be planned with confidence, failures to be anticipated and avoided, and maintenance costs to be reduced. Repeat samples are tested under the same conditions, using the same methods, ensuring the service delivers consistent results."

To ensure speed and accuracy, Castrol manages all sampling activity from end-to-end, tracking the progress of each sample from rig to lab and providing management information to the customer to identify where delays in the process can be reduced or eliminated. The time taken between sampling and issuing a report to the customer is usually around seven to eight days regardless of location. Results are available via the Castrol LabCheck Online service, designed to give customers ready access to sample analysis data. Results and diagnostic comments are supplemented with a traffic light system to indicate the severity rating, where:

- ❑ Red indicates the product is not fit for purpose and action must be taken
- ❑ Yellow indicates that the product can continue to be used but advises monitoring
- ❑ Green means the product is satisfactory for use

Customers using the online service can make a number of useful comparisons and look at the sample history for any of their applications. The trends these reveal can provide useful information about the condition of equipment.

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Tony added: "Castrol aims to help customers achieve the minimum turnaround time from when the sample is taken to when the report is available. This ensures results are not out of date by the time the customer gets them."

For more information on Castrol LabCheck, visit www.castrol.com/offshore or call Tony Globe at Castrol on +44 (0)2034 011065.

Issued on behalf of the Castrol Offshore Press Office by James Brady.
For enquiries from the media, journalists and researchers only, the Castrol Offshore Press Office can be contacted on: +44 (0)1782 443080 or email james@theprfirm.co.uk.

Images available on request.

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