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#### New basestock technology for automotive lubricants and greases

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#### Agenda

- Automotive Industry trends
- Novel Basestock Technology
- Performance illustrated in-Application:
  - · PCMO
  - EV driveline
  - · Grease
- Conclusions



### Automotive industry trends



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# Overarching trend: Energy efficiency to reduce CO<sub>2</sub>

#### ICE market trends dominated by fuel economy

Global regulations continue to be aggressive; EU imposed emission penalties on OEMs in 2021



#### EV market trend focused on extending range

New energy efficient fluids required for e-mobility



Source: ExxonMobil Energy Outlook 2022

Source: The International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT) https://theicct.org/pv-fuel-economy/





#### Novel basestock technology





# Low viscosity/low volatility (LVLV) PAO technology

#### LVLV PAO 3.5 unique PAO attributes

- Exceptional low viscosity, low volatility balance
- Excellent low-temperature properties
- Improved oxidative stability
- Enhanced lubricity and traction
- Improved flashpoint versus conventional PAO (c-PAO)

#### May deliver step-out performance vs. alternatives

- Fuel economy improvements for EO and driveline
- Energy efficiency for EV driveline
- Enhanced durability for extended oil drain intervals



#### Low Viscosity base stocks

Source: ExxonMobil Data and Publicly available data





# LVLV PAO 3.5 – Key properties

Test	Unit	Test method	LVLV PAO 3.5	PAO 3.6	PAO 4	Gr III+ 4
Kinematic Viscosity @ 100°C	cSt	D445	3.51	3.60	4.10	4.16*
Noack Volatility	wt %	D5800	11.6	17.0	12.4	13.0*
Pour Point	°C	D5950**	-78	-65	-66	-18*
CCS @ -35°C	сP	D5293	790	1050	1430	2045
RPVOT (oxidation test)	min	D2272B	102	47	41	40
Flash Point COC	°C	D92	234	224	220	224

Source

ExxonMobil Data unless noted otherwise

\*Publicly available data

\*\*ASTM method D5950 only covers up to -66 °C

#### LVLV PAO 3.5 achieves low viscosity, while improving or maintaining other key properties



#### Performance illustrated in-application





# LVLV PAO 3.5 – Expanding formulation window

Components	20% cPAO	80% cPAO	10% LVLV PAO 3.5	16% LVLV PAO 3.5	20% LVLV PAO 3.5	38% LVLV PAO 3.5		
Group III+	60	-	48	43	34	-		
Group III	-	-	22	20	26	-		
AdPack/VM	~20	~20	~20	~21	~20	~22		
сРАО	20	80	-	-	-	-		
LVLV PAO 3.5	-	-	10	16	20	38		
Gr II+	-	-	-	-	-	40		
Formulated Fluid Properties								
KV100 (6.9-9.3 cSt)	8.1	8.4	8.0	7.8	8.1	7.9		
HTHS (≥ 2.6 cP)	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6		
CCS –35 °C (<6200 cP)	5290	5014	6038	5242	5500	5439		

Benchmark

•

- Reduce PAO treat with LVLV PAO 3.5 and enable use of Grp III
- Unlock max Grp II+ with LVLV PAO 3.5

SpectraSyn<sup>™</sup> MaX 3.5 Data Source: ExxonMobil Testing Data; cPAO Data Source: Third Party Supplied Data

LVLV PAO 3.5 containing formulations could enable the development of formulations containing Group III or Group II+





# LVLV PAO 3.5 – Oxidative stability benefits

- Assessed oxidative stability of finished lubricants in presence of Biodiesel (CEC L-109)
- ACEA standard test run for 168 and 216 hours, with oxidation change  $\leq$  60% and  $\leq$  150% respectively
- Pictures were taken at the end of test after 216 hours



CEC L-109 - Viscosity Control

Source: ExxonMobil Internal Testing Data

#### All formulations meet ACEA requirements, but formulations with LVLV PAO 3.5 substantially outperforms benchmark





# VW TDi3 proof of concept: Doing MORE with less

PAO impact & relative TDi3 rating in 0W-20 candidates



LVLV PAO 3.5 Data Source: ExxonMobil Testing Data; cPAO Data Source: Third Party Supplied Data

- LVLV PAO 3.5 seems to provide directional cleanliness benefits compared to conventional PAO at lower treat rates
- LVLV PAO 3.5 with Grp II+ can perform comparably to PAOs and Group III/III+





## Evolving requirements, new opportunities



#### Lubrication challenges:

- High speed
- High temperature
- Long life (improved oxidative stability)
- Electrical properties
- Material compatibility

#### Base oil directly impacts:

- Energy efficiency (driving range)
- Heat transfer and thermal management
- High-/low-temperature properties, oxidation stability



		Lubrication needs	Thermal needs	Electrical needs
	Electric motor	<ul><li>Energy efficiency</li><li>Wear protection</li></ul>	<ul><li>Heat transfer / cooling</li><li>Thermal stability</li></ul>	<ul><li> Optimized conductivity</li><li> Material compatibility</li></ul>
Gearbox		<ul><li>Energy efficiency</li><li>Wear protection</li></ul>	Oxidative stability	
	Battery/ electronics		<ul><li>Thermal management</li><li>Safety</li></ul>	<ul><li>Insulation</li><li>Material compatibility</li></ul>





#### LVLV PAO 3.5 vs. alternatives

# The performance of LVLV PAO 3.5 was compared to other base stocks blended to the same viscosity

	LVLV PAO 3.5	Gr III	Gr III+	ΡΑΟ
KV100, cSt (ASTM D445)	3.51	3.43	3.49	3.48
KV40, cSt (ASTM D445)	14.2	14.4	14.4	14.4
VI	128	114	122	120
Pourpoint, °C (ASTM D97)	-78	-24	-51	-60
Noack at 250 °C, 1 hour (ASTM D5800)	12.5	33.4	26.4	28.0
Flash point (CoC), °C (ASTM D92)	225	201	210	203



Source: ExxonMobil Data & Analysis of publicly available data

LVLV PAO 3.5 may provide superior performance compared to other basestocks





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Source: ExxonMobil Internal Testing & Analysis of publicly available data

LVLV PAO lowers friction & torque losses, resulting in improved energy efficiency in mechanical systems.





# LVLV PAOs deliver differentiated volatility/flash point

Property	Based on method	LVLV 3.5	PAO 2.X *	
KV @ 100°C, cSt	ASTM D445	3.5	2.3	
KV @ 40°C, cSt	ASTM D445	14.2	8.2	
Flash Point , ⁰C	ASTM D92	234	203	

\* PAO 2.X is an experimental next-gen PAO



Source: ExxonMobil Data & Publicly available data

Next-gen PAOs achieve low viscosity, while improving or maintaining other key properties





#### Grease test candidates do not contain any additives

	Gr III	PAO 6	LVLV PAO 3.5 I (mPAO 300)	LVLV PAO 3.5 II (AN12)		Gr III	PAO 6	LVLV PAO 3.5 I (mPAO 300)	LVLV PAO 3. (AN12)
Thickener LiX	16.4%	16.4%	16.4%	16.4%	Thickener PU	16.5%	14.1%	15.3%	16.3%
Base Oil Blend					Base Oil Blend				
LVLV PAO 3.5			81%	55%	LVLV PAO 3.5			81%	55%
PAO 6		95%			PAO 6		95%		
Gr III	100%				Gr III	100%			
mPAO 300			14%		mPAO 300			14%	
AN 5		5%	5%		AN 5		5%	5%	
AN 12				45%	AN 12				45%
BOV, ASTM D7042, cSt	29.2	29.8	28.5	29.5	BOV, ASTM D7042, cSt	29.2	29.8	28.5	29.5
Penetration after 60 strokes, 1/10 mm	277	276	271	281	Penetration after 60 strokes, 1/10 mm	272	276	268	280

SpectraSyn<sup>®</sup> MaX 3.5 = low-viscosity/low-volatility PAO 3.5 cSt @100°C mPAO 300 = metallocene PAO 300 cSt @100°C AN 5 = alkylated naphthalene 5 cSt @100°C AN12 = alkylated naphthalene 12 cSt @100°C



# Tests conducted on novel high-speed test rig, KTH Stockholm

#### Bearing test rig features include:

- Two heads with four Type 6208 Deep Groove ball bearings each
- Axial load ~210 N, radial load ~300 N
- Variable speeds up to 600.000 nDm
- Room temperature, uncontrolled
- Grease test candidates do not contain any additives

#### Bearing test profile:

- Grease homogenized in the bearing for 50 hours at low, medium and high speeds
- Speed increments run for 24 hours in Sweep 1 and 2, every 2.5 hours in Sweep 3





Source: ExxonMobil Data Photos courtesy of KTH Stockholm





# Energy consumption, high-/low-temperature properties





#### Energy Consumption – PU Greases

**E**x on Mobil



#### FE9 - DIN 51821; 6000 min-1, 120°C



Low Temperature Torque @-40°C, ASTM D1478



LVLV PAO can improve energy efficiency as well as low-/high-temperature properties of bearing greases

FE9 and low-temperature

torque for LiX Greases







# Summary

- Improved energy efficiency of ICE and EV driveline concepts remains a key driver of the automotive industry
- Low-viscosity/low-volatility basestock technology enables lubricant manufacturers to develop their next-generation lubricants and greases for automotive applications
  - Significantly improved viscosity/volatility balance and low-temperature properties compared to conventional PAO and Gr III/III+
  - > Increased formulation flexibility and performance benefits for the development of low-viscosity engine oils
  - Enhanced oxidation stability and lower traction can provide extended oil drain intervals and improved energy efficiency of transmission fluids
  - > EV greases based on novel basestock technology can provide better durability and lower energy consumption

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# Ask us about our new basestock technology for automotive lubricants and greases

Kelly Sun, Customer Application Development Professional, ExxonMobil Product Solutions











# Thank you

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