

Why Reference Samples Are Important?

A reference sample is a sample taken of an oil before it is put into service. This provides an analyst a snapshot of the makeup of the oil to compare against when analyzing the “in-service” or used oil. This comparison is important to understand what has changed with the used oil and, more importantly, what is going on with your equipment.

75%

A donut chart with a light blue outer ring and a grey inner ring. The grey ring represents 75% of the total, while the light blue ring represents the remaining 25%.

75% of new oil **does not** meet cleanliness level requirements of the equipment.

61%

A donut chart with a dark blue outer ring and a grey inner ring. The grey ring represents 61% of the total, while the dark blue ring represents the remaining 39%.

61% of lubrication professionals **do not** sample or test new oil upon receipt.

REFERENCE SAMPLE BENEFITS



Better diagnostics and more accurate oil analysis results



Establishes a baseline for monitoring in-service lubricants



Verifies lubricant cleanliness and chemical make-up



REFERENCE SAMPLE LOCATIONS

Reference samples can come from three distinct stages of The Journey of the Lubricant®. Each reference can tell an analyst unique attributes at each stage. Each stage has benefits and drawbacks. Ideally you would want to take a sample from each stage, to be able to pinpoint when and where contamination or chemical changes are taking place. When that scenario is not viable, it is important to associate where the reference sample is taken to the used oil sample.

Trico recommends taking all three reference samples. **When providing samples, please indicate which stage the reference is coming from on the sample bottle label.**



Arrival



Storage



Transfer

Correct Lubricant Received



Indication of condition and care your supplier has taken to ensure oil is proper and contaminant free.

Behavioral Practices



Identifies how your practices are impacting your lubricant condition.

Diagnostics Accuracy



Provides the best baseline for equipment test results.

