

Crude Oil becomes Base Oil becomes Motor Oil

Oil is not oil – during production process you may differentiate between crude oil, base oil and motor oil.

Crude oil is the petroleum coming out of the drilling hole. It still contains all kinds of contamination. Depending on the oil field it varies in colour and viscosity. There is a first filtering process on the spot. Later on refineries distillate different products from the crude oil: gasoline, diesel, kerosene, heating oil, lubricants, heavy fuel oil, and bitumen. In the area of lubricants different kinds of base oils are produced.



These **base oils** are the foundation for motor oils. Depending on the demanded specifications one base oil or a combination of base oils form the basis – but nothing more. They alone are far away from having the necessary performance. Would you fill only base oil in your motor its breakdown is foreseeable. Depending on the desired performance additives are added. It's the additives which make modern, high-performance motor oils possible.

So the additive package is very important for the **motor oil**. Viscosity is only a first, rather vague criterion for quality and performance of motor oil. 10W-40 may be a simple mineral oil without any special properties or just as well a synthetic high performance product with outstanding cleaning characteristics and strong wear protection. Modern motor oils often are developed for certain engines and are suited only for them. They are a kind of fluid spare parts for specific car models. That is the reason why it is so important to use the right motor oil – nobody would install new brakes and don't care whether they fit for that vehicle or not.