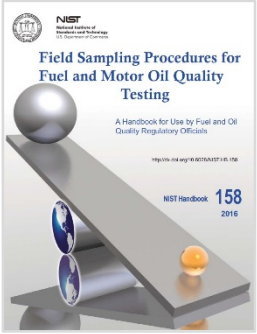

6/7/2016

Office of Weights and Measures Publishes:

Fuel and Motor Oil Sampling Handbook for Field Officials

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NIST Handbook 158 "Field Sampling Procedures for Fuel and Motor Oil Quality Testing" describes uniform procedures for regulatory officials to use in collecting samples of fuel and motor oils for quality testing. Published on April 21, 2016, NIST Handbook 158 was developed for everyday use and includes detailed information on both sampling equipment and its use, with detailed guidance on sample collection, protection, and handling. Because of the Handbook's broad scope, a sampling official can use the equipment and procedures described in this handbook to take fuel samples from the storage tanks of a local service station or bulk plant, from transport vehicles, or from any type of retail fuel dispenser. Of special note are several alternative procedures for collecting samples from ethanol dispensers delivering E15 blends which have recently entered the marketplace across the country. These alternative procedures were developed in collaboration with the leading manufacturers of the blending dispensers, state fuel quality officials, and biofuel experts to ensure that the E15 sample taken from the dispenser is representative of the product delivered to consumers. The handbook also includes a unique section which describes label inspection methods and sampling procedures for motor oil. This section will be especially useful to state regulatory programs that are already testing motor oils and those considering the implementation of an oil inspection program in order to stem the sale of misbranded engine oils, a problem of significance in parts of the country.

The new handbook is available at the following URLs:

http://dx.doi.org/10.6028/NIST.HB.158

http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/hb/2016/NIST.HB.158.pdf

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