

Flash Point Tests in the Petroleum & Fuels Industry

Fuels are formulated to ensure that engine performance is optimised and flash point is a key parameter for these properties and mandated in all fuel specifications.

For transportation the flammability level must be known so that the appropriate safety precautions are taken when handling fuels, testing flash point establishes the flammability hazard level. Many times the same pipeline or tanker is utilised to transfer different types of fuels. Some fuels, such as gasoline, are much more flammable than kerosene or diesel and there exists the potential for the more flammable material to mix (comingle) during transport. Flash point is the measurement used to determine if the shipment has somehow been mixed with another fuel.



Gasoline & Diesel Fuels - Primary Flash Point Test Methods					
ASTM D7467 - Biodiesel		ASTM D975 - Diesel		EN590 - Diesel	
ASTM D3828	Small scale - closed cup	ASTM D3828	Small scale - closed cup	EN ISO 2719	Pensky Martens
ASTM D93	Pensky Martens	ASTM D93	Pensky Martens		



Setaflash - the preferred test method

The Setaflash instrument requires just 2ml of sample which enables the target temperature to be reached quickly, typically within 1-2 minutes. Many traditional flash point tests require a much larger volume of sample (typically 70-80ml) and also take 30 minutes or longer to perform, so most operators opt for the Setaflash Small Scale Closed Cup test - ASTM D3828 which is fully specified for flash point testing of petroleum and fuels.

The Setaflash instrument is a simple and cost effective test that can be undertaken on-site with minimum operator skill. Results ensure that a product complies with transport safety regulations, small sample volume reduces the wastage costs of testing for flash point.

Further information about Setaflash small scale flash point testing can be found at www.stanhope-seta.co.uk/small-scale-flashpoint-testing.asp or by scanning the QR code below.

