



INFORMATION SHEET 6 – FUELSTAT[®] *resinae* PLUS Test Kit

(Previously called Kerosene Advanced)

LIST OF MICROBES GROWING IN FUEL - CLARIFICATION OF POTENTIALLY MISLEADING INFORMATION CURRENTLY IN CIRCULATION

We are aware that there is some confusion over a list of organisms found in hydrocarbon fuels published in a presentation on the “types of contamination in aircraft fuel tanks”. We would like to take the opportunity to clarify the situation.

The list includes 125 microbes (30 bacteria, 12 yeasts and 83 filamentous fungi). The list is credited to a peer-reviewed scientific paper authored by “CC Gaylarde et al” and our Technical Director, Dr J Kelley was one of the co-authors. The paper quoted is called “Microbial Contamination of Stored Hydrocarbon Fuels and Its Control”. Please note the following:

- The paper lists organisms reported at that time as having been isolated from **ALL** fuel types, not just aviation kerosene. This does not mean that the organism was growing in the fuel or was able to degrade it. In fact, the paper reduces the list of organisms that **CAN** grow in the various types of fuels to 8 bacteria (from the original 30), 5 yeasts (from 12) and 16 filamentous fungi, including *Hormoconis resinae* (*H. res*), (from 83). I.E. a total of 29 out of the original list of 125 are potentially problem organisms for hydrocarbon fuels in general.
- The paper discusses fuel storage systems **NOT** on-board fuel tanks.
- The paper discusses **ALL** fuels from gasoline to heavy diesel. There is no suggestion in the paper that the 29 listed all grow in aviation kerosene. The paper makes the point that “diesel is the fuel which suffers from the most varied microbial contamination problems” not aviation kerosene in an aircraft fuel tank.