

RLI Marine

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A Marine Guide

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) enacted the Vessel General Permit (VGP) legislation on December 19, 2013, introducing a comprehensive framework to regulate the use of lubricants in maritime operations. A key provision, VGP Section 2.2.9, mandates the use of Environmentally Acceptable Lubricants (EALs) in all oil-to-sea interfaces, provided it's technically feasible. These EALs, defined as biodegradable, minimally toxic, and non-bio-accumulative lubricants, must meet specific criteria outlined in the permit's Appendix A. The VGP legislation extends its influence to a wide array of maritime equipment, including propulsion systems, stabilizers, and hydraulic fluids, aiming to minimize the environmental impact of vessel operations.

MARINE LUBRICANTS

Compliance necessitates stringent record-keeping practices, ensuring Safety Data Sheets and Technical Data Sheets for all EALs used are maintained. Realworld applications of these EALs, including success stories from the Port of Los Angeles to the James River Reserve Fleet, underscore their high performance and environmental benefits. Moreover, RLI offers a comprehensive line of marine lubricants to meet the diverse needs of the maritime industry while safeguarding the environment, making the use of EALs a pivotal choice in both compliance and sustainability. Renewable Lubricants EALs offer high performance while safeguarding the marine environment, making them a preferred option for a variety of maritime applications.

AFFECTED EQUIPMENT

- Wire Rope
- Propulsion Pod Lube
- Stern Tubes
- Paddlewheel
- Controllable Pitch Propellers
- Azipods
- Rudder Bearings
- Stabilizers
- Thruster Azimuth Bearings
- Thruster Hydraulic Fluids
- Towing Notch Interface
- Mechanical equipment subject to immersion (e.g., dredges)

EAL PRODUCTS IN USE

A variety of EAL products are making a difference in maritime operations, including:

- Bio-Penetrating Lubricant
- Bio-SynXtra TC-W 2-Cycle Engine Oil
- Bio-SynXtra ATF
- Bio-Ultimax 1000 ISO 68 Hydraulic Oil
- Bio-SynXtra HP HD Engine Oil SAE 15W40 HD
- Bio-Air Compressor Fluid AC30
- Bio-180 High-Temperature Multi-Purpose Lithium Grease NLGI #2



EAL IN ACTION proven high-performance cases



Port of Los Angeles

Berth 93 at the Port of Los Angeles, home to modern cruise ships, uses Bio-Ultimax 1000 ISO 46 High-Performance Hydraulic Fluid to lubricate gangways.

NOAA Nancy Foster

All hydraulic systems on board use Bio-Ultimax 1000 Hydraulic Fluids for oceanic research in the Atlantic.

James River Reserve Fleet (Ghost Fleet)

The service ships in the James River Reserve Fleet use EAL/VGP compliant lubricants.

EPA Ship Lake Guardian

Has been successfully using Bio-Ultimax[™] 1000 Hydraulic Fluid ISO 46-68 for over a decade. This highquality hydraulic fluid has been proven effective in both Stern Tube Lube and various deck hydraulic equipment applications. Many original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) exclusively endorse low ash (zinc-free) and low EP hydraulic fluids with exceptional seal compatibility for Stern Tube use.



REAL-WORLD

Implementations

Kiewit and Nelson Petroleum | Large construction company Kiewit in Washington worked with Nelson Petroleum, ordering Bio-180 Grease, Bio-E.P. Wire Rope, and Bio-Ultimax Hydraulic Fluids for their operations.

Curtin Maritime | A medium-sized company in Long Beach, California, needed to comply with the EPA/VGP. They ordered Bio-180 Grease, Bio-E.P. Wire Rope, and Bio-Ultimax Hydraulic Fluids directly from RLI.

Station Atlantic City | In Atlantic City, New Jersey, various facilities and equipment use a range of EAL products, including Bio-Penetrating Lubricant, Bio-SynXtra ATF, and more.





BIO-ULTIMAX 1000 HYDRAULIC FLUID

 Biodegradable hydraulic fluid that outperforms mineral oil-based alternatives.
 Exceptional anti-wear properties and resistance to moisture and rust.
 Environmentally friendly and meets or exceeds pump requirements.



BIO-HIGH TEMP 180 GREASE

 High-temperature bio-based grease with excellent load-carrying ability and resistance to water and corrosion.
 Ultimately biodegradable and environmentally friendly.
 Suitable for a wide range of applications, including industrial machinery and marine use.



BIO-EP WIRE ROPE LUBRICANT

• Biodegradable wire rope lubricant with anti-wear and extreme pressure properties. • Provides a protective coating and deep penetration, preventing rust and wear. • Offers exceptional protection in heavy loading and shock loading situations.



BIO-AIR COMPRESSOR FLUID (AC-30)

• Ultimately biodegradable bio-based/synthetic formula for air compressors. • High viscosity index for improved thermal shear stability and load capacity. • Low volatility, excellent anti-wear performance, and low toxicity.



BIO-SYNXTRA AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION FLUID (ATF) PLUS

 Transmission fluid with a shear-stable, multi-grade viscosity suitable for various applications.
 Offers improved shear stability and torque capacity.
 Meets and exceeds performance requirements for a range of equipment.

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RLI WEB



RLI LINKEDIN



These environmentally acceptable lubricants are suitable for a variety of applications, such as
Sewer • Waste • Construction • Utilities
Roadwork • Marinas/Ports • Water Treatment