



# VINTAGE VETERAN AND CLASSIC TECH NOTE

Number V-7

## Penrite Philosophy for API Ratings on Engine Oils for Veteran, Edwardian, Vintage and Classic Cars & Motorcycles.

Astute readers may have noted that Penrite oils do not quote an API rating for many of the engine oil products.

While our **Classic Full Synthetic 10W-50** and **HPR 15W-60** are at the highest API SL/CF and ACEA A3/B3 levels, products such as Heritage, Shelsley and Classic do not quote an API.

The reason for this is that the API rating becomes somewhat less relevant for older vehicles. While a top rated oil will provide the best lubrication and wear protection for a modern engine, it may not be as suitable for an older engine, especially if that engine is "original" (not reconditioned) and/or rarely used.

At Penrite we focus more on what concentration and combination of additives will provide the best lubrication for the original engines of a given era.

Some engines are looking for no more than a bit of anti wear and anti rust protection. The cars mostly affected are those of the Edwardian era when not a lot of stress was placed on the oils. These are non-detergent **HERITAGE** range of products.

Moving along a few years, technology moved ahead and a little more was required out of the oil. The **SHELSLEY** range of oils covers vehicles up to about 1950, and they are low in detergency. This is so they provide a level of cleanliness for the engine without causing the sometimes dramatic oil consumption problems modern oils can give through bore glazing or "clean out".

Finally, from 1950 to about 1970, the **Classic HPR** range has been formulated to handle the higher wear and temperature stresses that the engines of the time started to place on the oil. From 20W-60 to 40-70 grades (for originally specified SAE 30 to 50 applications) these oils provide better protection from an anti wear standpoint as well as oil film thickness. **Classic 20W-50** is also ideal for those engines built from 1970 to about 1989 and is suitable for Pre 1970 diesel trucks.

All these products contain levels of organic zinc anti wear additives at a level set to provide anti wear protection. Even the low and non-detergent products contain the optimum levels of this important anti wear additive. Of course, friction modifiers are not used in any of these grades, nor did the engines of the day require them.

So if you own a Classic, Vintage or Veteran vehicle, be assured that although Penrite have not quoted an API rating, we have formulated our products to properly look after your pride and joy.

Life's too short to compromise.

Choose Penrite.

