

## 2.0 Testing engine oils

Certain characteristics of engine oils can be evaluated on the basis of laboratory investigations. However, this can never adequately describe the performance spectrum of an engine oil. Numerous tests, e.g. in special test engines, are required in order to obtain a sufficiently reliable statement about the performance capability of an oil under operating conditions in the engine.

For this reason, various institutions have drawn up specifications for assessing the quality of engine oils, which comprise great numbers of test procedures.

Only oils that comply with the European ACEA\* (CCMC)\* specification or the API\*\* classification can be used in engines of the BMW Group.

The different demands spark-ignition and diesel engines make on the engine oil are taken into account in the respective test methods.

- \*) ACEA = Association des Constructeurs Européens d'Automobiles  
(Association of European Automotive Manufacturers)  
CCMC = Comité des Constructeurs d'Automobiles du Marché Commun  
(Association of Automotive Manufacturers in the Common Market / was superseded in 1991 by the ACEA)
- \*\*\*) API = American Petroleum Institute