

AeroShell



BRIEFING NOTE

AeroShell Grease 5, 6, 7, 22 – Potential for Supply Disruption

Shell has been made aware of a fire at the Chemtool manufacturing plant in Rockton, Illinois, USA on 14 June 2021. All on site are safely accounted for. Shell is a customer of Chemtool and purchases certain grades of AeroShell Grease from its Rockton site.

We are awaiting more detail from our supplier Chemtool to understand the potential impact to future supply. While there is currently no disruption to Shell's supply of AeroShell Greases to our customers, the situation remains dynamic. Should the current outlook change, we may need to declare force majeure in accordance with the provisions of our supply agreement with you. **Please note that this letter is for your information only and we are not formally declaring force majeure in accordance with the terms of the agreement between you and us at this time.**

At this stage, given the severity of the fire and in order for you to make informed decisions and any necessary preparations, we anticipate potential for significant ongoing supply disruption for the following grades:

- AeroShell Grease 5
- AeroShell Grease 6
- AeroShell Grease 7
- AeroShell Grease 22

AeroShell have formed a dedicated team to evaluate our supply continuity plan, and we will continue to keep you updated. As an interim, please see an overview of potential suitable alternatives on the following page.

In collaboration with Chemtool, we are working on their alternate production sources to minimise any impact on our customers. We will proactively manage our existing inventories, which will be allocated on a case by case basis until further notice. Your AeroShell Account Manager is at your disposal to discuss any specific concerns you may have.

In the meantime, we thank you for your patience and cooperation as we work hard to resolve the issue.

Saskia Boeve

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Proposed Alternatives

Customers should choose the appropriate products for their needs and refer to the OEM's manuals. Options for consideration are:

- **AeroShell Grease 5:** ASG 5 is approved by OEMs and to Mil-G-3545C (obsolete). Subject to the approval of the OEM, AeroShell Grease 58 may be an acceptable alternative, in particular for wheel bearing applications where ASG 58 is already approved for Parker and other OEM wheels. ASG 58⁽¹⁾ has also been used as a General Aviation aircraft grease following specific OEM approval.
- **AeroShell Grease 6:** ASG 6 is the only grease approved to MIL-PRF-24139A. There are no currently identified alternatives.
- **AeroShell Grease 7:** ASG 7 is the only grease approved to MIL-PRF-23827 Type II. Subject to the approval of the OEM, AeroShell Grease 33⁽²⁾ may be an acceptable alternative. ASG 33 is approved to MIL-PRF-23827 Type I and a favoured general aircraft grease by leading OEMs.
- **AeroShell Grease 22:** ASG 22 is approved to MIL-PRF-81322. Subject to the approval of the equipment OEM, AeroShell Grease 58 may be an acceptable alternative, in particular for wheel bearing applications where ASG 58 is approved for many applications.

The mixing of Microgel® or clay thickened grease with other thickener types should generally be minimized or avoided.

Lithium complex grease generally has superior additive tolerance allowing for more sophisticated performance characteristics such as corrosion protection, load carrying ability, and mechanical stability.

- (1) *ASG 58 is a synthetic hydrocarbon, lithium-complex-thickened grease designed as the next generation wheel bearing grease. ASG 58 is approved to SAE AMS 3058. It shares the same technology proven AeroShell Lithium Complex thickener systems used in ASG 33 and ASG 64.*
- (2) *ASG 33 is lithium-complex-thickened grease with synthetic hydrocarbon and ester base oil and is an industry accepted alternative to ASG 7. There is an aviation industry trend to move away from clay-based grease such as Microgel to lithium complex grease.*