



Aircraft Report Element Explanation

Averages: Both the universal and unit averages are running averages and change with the number of samples analyzed.

Elements: Elements are quantified in the oil at part per million levels (PPM). This list shows the most common sources of the elements from an aircraft engine. They are grouped by category. Following each element is a description of where it comes from.

Wear Metals

Aluminum: Pistons, piston pin plugs, bearings, and the case

Chromium: Rings, (replacement) cylinders, steel alloy, valve stems

Iron: Cylinders, rotating shafts, the valve train, and any steel part sharing the oil

Copper: Brass or bronze parts, bushings, bearings, oil coolers

Lead: Primarily leaded gas blow-by, bearings (but lead from bearings is usually masked by 100LL)

Tin: Bearings, bronze parts (with copper), anti-wear coatings

Nickel: Valve guides, replacement cylinders, trace element in steel

Trace Elements

Manganese: Grease additive

Silver: Trace element in some types of bearings

Titanium, Potassium, Boron: Trace elements

Molybdenum: Anti-scuff piston coating, some cylinder types

Contaminants

Silicon: Abrasive dirt (via intake air), silicone sealers, and gaskets

Sodium: Antifreeze and brine-filled valves

Oil Additives

Calcium/Magnesium: Oil additives, rare in aircraft engine oils

Phosphorus: Oil additive

Zinc: Component of brass (with copper), oil additive common to auto engine oils

Barium: Oil additive, not commonly used in aircraft oil

Physical properties:

Viscosity/Flashpoint: If fuel is present in the oil, the viscosity and flash point will often be lower than what is stated in the "Values Should Be" line. A high viscosity may show oil stress from heat or contamination.

Fuel %: Indicates the amount of volatile gas found in the oil.

Water %: Indicates the amount of moisture found in the oil.

Insolubles %: Insolubles are solid materials present in the oil. They are typically free carbon from the oxidation of the oil itself, along with blow-by products past the rings.