



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER

IARC MONOGRAPHS
ON THE
EVALUATION OF THE
CARCINOGENIC RISK
OF CHEMICALS TO HUMANS

Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons,
Part 2,
Carbon Blacks, Mineral Oils
(Lubricant Base Oils and Derived Products)
and Some Nitroarenes

VOLUME 33

This publication represents the views and expert opinions
of an IARC Working Group on the
Evaluation of the Carcinogenic Risk of Chemicals to Humans
which met in Lyon

7-14 June 1983

April 1984

INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER

VVV 000017613

MINERAL OILS¹

(LUBRICANT BASE OILS AND DERIVED PRODUCTS)

1. Chemical and Physical Data

1.1 Synonyms and trade names

Mineral oils (general)

Chem. Abstr. Services Reg. No.: 8002-05-9

Chem. Abstr. Name: Petroleum

IUPAC Systematic Name: —

Synonym: Petroleum distillate

In view of problems of nomenclature and of the wide differences in the production, uses and chemical, physical and toxicological characteristics of petroleum refinery materials, a system for defining petroleum crude oil refinery process streams was adopted in 1978 under the US Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and in 1981 under the Commission of the European Communities's Sixth Amendment to the Dangerous Substances Directive - European Inventory of Existing Commercial Chemical Substances (EINECS). Each stream is defined on the basis of petroleum crude oil type, viscosity and process, and is identified by a Chemical Abstract Services (CAS) Registry Number, which identifies its last refining process.

The important refinery streams (most of which are used as lubricant base oils) that are included on the inventories of chemical substances in the USA and Europe are given in Table 1.

¹ A general term that has been used to describe not only material covered in this monograph but crude petroleum and virtually all materials derived from it (e.g., light naphtha, gasoline, kerosene, middle distillates and fuel oils). Within this monograph, the term 'lubricant base oils' is used to refer to the refinery streams and the term 'lubricating oil' to the end product, as marketed, which is sold for lubricating purposes and may or may not contain additives.