



# TECHNICAL BULLETIN NO: 197

## E85 Compatible Engine Oils

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PENRITE

E85 fuel is a mixture consisting of 85% ethanol and 15% unleaded petrol. It has been introduced as a fuel as it is a form of renewable energy and, as such, can potentially renew hydrocarbon reserves.

Vehicles able to use E85 can be also known as Flex Fuel vehicles. Some examples of these are VE2 Holden Commodore V6, Dodge Journey & Avenger. In Motorsport, all the V8 Supercars now run on E85 fuel.

It is important to use engine oils that are compatible with E85 fuel. Oils meeting API SN/ILSAC GF-5 are best able to handle E85 fuel as a specific test was introduced for oils meeting this specification for corrosion protection when used with E85 as the fuel. The reason for this is oil that mixes readily with ethanol fuel blends can appear to go milky and may appear to be contaminated with water where fuel dilution occurs.

E85, in general, poses issues with corrosion protection as water is soluble in ethanol and even trace amounts can increase the likelihood of rust occurring inside the engine and fuel delivery system.

### Penrite recommends the following oils for use with E85 Fuel.

#### Everyday Use

Enviro + GF-5 SAE 5W-30  
Pro 5 SAE 5W-30

Everyday SAE 5W-30  
Pro 10 SAE 10W-30

Everyday SAE 10W-30

#### For Competition Use

Premium 0 SAE 0W-50  
Racing 0 SAE 0W-20  
Racing 15 SAE 15W-50

Premium 5 SAE 5W-60  
Racing 5 SAE 5W-30  
Racing 20 SAE 20W-60

Premium 10 SAE 10W-70  
Racing 10 SAE 10W-40

For 2-stroke competition applications, use Penrite Race Castor Synthetic, which tests so far, have shown that it is miscible with E85.



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