Valvoline Lubricants, Greases & Fluid Shelf life.

Shelf life represents the time during which a stored Lubricants, Greases or Fluids can continue to be used without quality-control checks.

Shelf life recommendations apply to lubricants that have been stored in their original, sealed containers under good housekeeping conditions. If the oil container is opened, then the balance oil in containers needs to be resealed to avoid any ingress of contamination & moisture. Once oil is put into service & transferred to the sump of any equipment or machinery then its suitability of continued use is solely function of Original equipment manufacturer's recommendation for re-lubrication or change interval.

Extreme heat or cold, fluctuating temperatures, moisture/humidity, dust and dirt can shorten the life span of stored lubricants. For this reason, it is prudent to follow best storage practices: -

- Store lubricants indoors in a clean, dry, moisture free location with a relatively stable, moderate temperature. Typically, ideal storage temperature range should be between $0^{o}C$ to $45^{o}C$.
- If outside storage is the only option, use tarpaulins, plastic caps and racks to shelter lubricants as much as possible from sunlight/heat, moisture and dirt.
- Oil drums, if stored horizontally, oil bungs (plugs) should always be parallel to ground i.e. 3'O clock & 9'O clock position to avoid moisture laden air getting inside the drums.
- Dedicated oil dispensing equipment & containers should be used for handling individual category of lubricants.
- Use clean dispensing equipment to minimize contamination by dirt, moisture or mixing with other oil when transferring lubricant from a storage container to machinery.
- Make sure that containers are kept properly closed to reduce the risk of contamination.
- Wipe off the tops and edges of containers before opening to avoid contamination.
- Purchase lubricants in appropriately sized containers; apply a first-in-first-out rotation.
- Specific to Grease – Grease Drums, always is to be stored & transported in vertical / upright position. If grease is removed from a drum or pail, the surface of the remaining grease should be smoothed to prevent oil separation into the cavity.
- Specific to Water Soluble Fluids - Water-based lubricants and formulations are more sensitive to moisture and gradually change texture, odor, discoloration and eventually become unusable so extra care must be taken while storing. Shelf life of these grades are considerable less than conventional mineral oil products.

Contd. 2/-

Estimated Shelf Life of Valvoline Fluids by category

Auto Engine Oils & Gear Oils (mineral & Synthetic)	3 years
Greases	2 years
Radiator Coolants (Water based)	2 years
Radiator Coolants (Glycol based)	3 years
Metal Working Fluids (Water Soluble)	1 year
Metal Working Fluids (Straight Cutting oils)	2 years
Rust Preventives	2 years
Mineral Based Industrial Oils	3 years
Brake Fluids	1 year
AirShield DEF (AUS 32)/ Diesel Exhaust Fluid	6 months *

* As per ISO 22241-3, DEF / AUS 32 if stored indoor away from direct sunlight at temp ≤ 35˚C.

Shelf life is considered from the date of manufacturing of product, as printed on the container. However, in case large quantity of oil remains unused after end of the shelf life period, we recommend laboratory testing (recertification) to ensure that the product will continue to provide the promised performance in the intended application.

For more details consult your Valvoline representative.

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Modified on 17th Dec, 2018