

# LUBRICANT STORAGE



Proper storage is as important as using the lubricant most suited to the lubrication needs of your machine

**SHELL LUBRICANTS**  
TOGETHER ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

## GENERAL

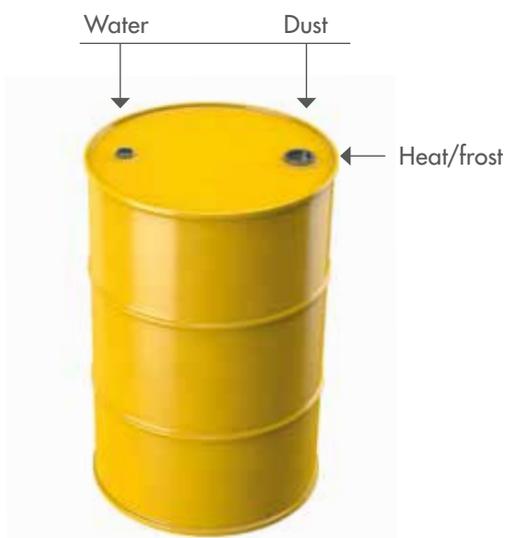
At Shell production sites, precautions are taken to ensure good, consistent product quality on delivery to customers' sites.

To ensure good lubrication of machines during service, the lubricant must be fully on-specification and contaminant-free on application in the machine.

Poor storage has three main risks:

- external contamination such as water or dust
- changes caused by overly long storage
- label deterioration, thus the risk of incorrect application.

### POSSIBLE RISKS



**Never store a container outside with the bungs pointing upwards.**

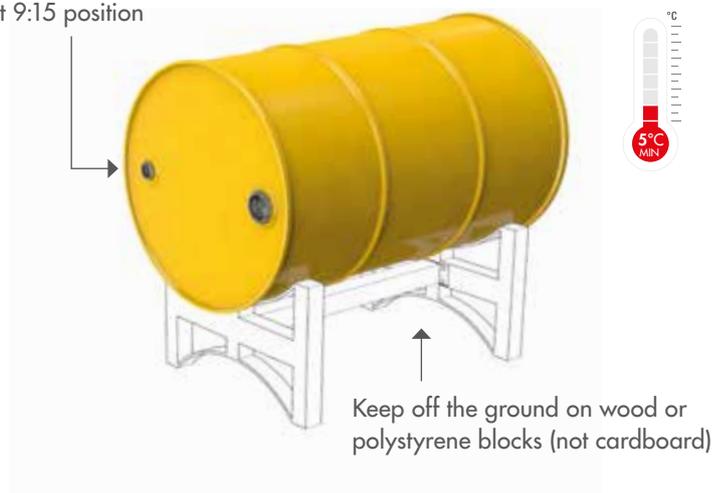
## "TEN COMMANDMENTS" FOR GOOD STORAGE

The ten commandments for good storage should be followed while considering the specific constraints within your company. Special care should be taken when storing lubricant near the sea or at a high altitude.

### DURING STORAGE

1. Protect containers from adverse weather conditions and from temperature extremes.
2. Store drums and kegs on their side with the two bungs in the horizontal position to prevent the seals from drying out and from letting in air.
3. Store containers on chocks to raise them off the ground. Once a year, turn the containers 180° to recoat the non-immersed side.
4. If commandments 1 and 2 cannot be implemented, store the drums upside down, i.e., bungs facing downwards.

Bungs horizontal at 9:15 position



## DURING USE

5. Use the FIFO system: "first in, first out".
6. Record the date on which the container is opened.
7. Clean the area around the container opening properly.
8. Close the container each time after removing product.

## STORAGE PERIOD

9. Unopened containers: **three years** when stored according to commandments 1, 2 and 3; and **one year** when stored according to commandment 4.
10. Opened containers stored under proper conditions: **six months**.

Once this period has elapsed, examine the oil visually to check that it looks useable. If you have any doubts, contact your Shell representative for advice.

## SPECIALITY OILS

Speciality oils such as white oils (Shell Ondina and Shell Risella) and dielectric oils (Shell Diala) must be stored and handled to preserve their specific characteristics. The technical data sheets for these products contain special recommendations for storage.

## SPECIAL CASES

### BULK STORAGE

Tanks must be clean and properly accessible for good housekeeping. They must be equipped with a drain valve and possibly with a filter or a desiccator on the vents.

### GREASE

- **Grease handling:** Use clean tools. Do not use wooden scrapers or knives, as these leave wood fibres behind in the grease.
- **Bleeding:** Greases tend to bleed, i.e., release small quantities of oil. This phenomenon is normal and can increase during storage.

To minimise bleeding, smooth out the grease surface after removing product from the container.

The storage period for greases is 36 months. After this period has elapsed, tests must be performed to verify grease quality, depending on storage conditions and period.



Find out more by visiting  
[www.shell.com/lubricants](http://www.shell.com/lubricants)