

Bakelite's Resistance to Oil Time + 1 year

Background: Approximately one year ago a Spreewerk grip was cut into five sections to test its resistance to various standard lubricants. The intent was to see if any detrimental effect on the Bakelite could be detected. Results are below.



Figure 1a (above) and 1b (below) – Section 1 (CLP immersed) with section 0 (control section) in background at time +1 year.





Figure 2 – Section 2 (CLP – allowed to drain) at time +1 year.



Figure 3a – WD-40 test piece (section 3) at time zero.



Figure 3b – WD-40 test piece at time +1 year.



Figure 4 – Rem-Oil test piece at time +1 year.

Conclusion: The specific formulation of the grip used in this experiment proved to be extremely resistant to all oils it was subjected to. None of the four tested pieces showed any noticeable effect. Color and texture remained the same as the control piece. Scratching the test pieces with a scribe was no easier or harder than the control piece. No swelling, warping, or other deterioration was observed. Of particular interest is the fact that no swelling occurred in areas of exposed filler.

To be continued... Test pieces two, three, and four were sprayed again with their respective lubricants. Test piece one was returned to its CLP bath. All will be examined at a later date for signs of deterioration.

Note: Slight color differences between the photos from a year ago and the recent photos can be attributed to different camera models used (originals taken with a Canon PowerShot S200, recent photos taken with a Canon PowerShot S3 IS). As can be seen in figure 1b, the color of the Bakelite has remained consistent.