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ILSAC GF-6 and GF-7 Lubricants Market - A Global and Regional Analysis: Focus on Application, Product, and Countries - Analysis and Forecast, 2025-2034

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Abstracts

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ILSAC GF-6 and GF-7 Lubricants Market Industry and Technology Overview

The ILSAC GF-6 and GF-7 lubricants market constitutes a pivotal segment within the broader automotive lubricants industry, addressing the evolving performance demands of modern internal combustion and hybrid engines. These standards are integral to advancing engine oil formulations that align with contemporary requirements such as improved fuel economy, low-speed pre-ignition (LSPI) mitigation, enhanced engine cleanliness, and extended durability under high thermal loads. Innovations in additive chemistry, viscosity modifiers, and synthetic base oils continue to enhance the functional capabilities of engine lubricants tailored to turbocharged, downsized, and hybrid powertrains.

Global ILSAC GF-6 and GF-7 Lubricants Market Lifecycle Stage

The ILSAC GF-6 standard, including its GF-6A and GF-6B variants, is currently in the adoption and maturation phase, with widespread acceptance across North America and Japan. This stage is marked by OEM certification cycles, accelerated consumer awareness, and evolving service fill requirements. As the industry prepares for the anticipated rollout of GF-7, the market is transitioning into a phase of forward-looking

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innovation and product differentiation, focused on even lower viscosities, hybrid-specific performance, and compatibility with future engine technologies.

OEM partnerships, regulatory mandates on fuel economy and emissions, and the need for extended drain intervals are driving lubricant formulators to push technological boundaries. Government regulations promoting sustainability and vehicle efficiency are catalyzing the shift toward full-synthetic, high-performance lubricants. Collaboration among additive developers, base oil suppliers, and automakers is crucial for developing formulations that exceed both current and future performance benchmarks.

The ILSAC GF-6 and GF-7 lubricants market is expected to witness sustained growth over the next decade, reinforced by the global push for cleaner mobility, hybridization trends, and engine downsizing. As the market moves toward the next generation of lubricant standards, it will increasingly rely on material science innovation, performance validation, and strategic alignment with evolving automotive design and regulatory landscapes.

ILSAC GF-6 and GF-7 Lubricants Market Segmentation:

Segmentation 1: by Engine Application

Standard Gasoline Engines (MPFI, older vehicles)

Turbocharged Gasoline Direct Injection (TGDI)

Hybrid Engines

Segmentation 2: by Base Oil

Conventional (Group II or lower)

Semi-Synthetic (Blends)

Full Synthetic (Group III, IV/PAO, GTL)

Segmentation 3: by Sales Channel

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OEM Factory Fill

Dealership Service Fill

Aftermarket Retail

Segmentation 4: by Region

%li% U.S., Canada, Mexico, and Japan

Others (Including Europe, Asia-Pacific, and Rest-of-the-World)

Demand – Drivers and Limitations

The following are the key demand drivers for the ILSAC GF-6 and GF-7 lubricants market:

Stringent emission and fuel economy regulations are compelling automakers and lubricant formulators to adopt advanced low-viscosity engine oils that improve thermal efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Rising penetration of turbocharged and gasoline direct injection (GDI) engines is driving the need for lubricants that address LSPI protection, timing chain wear, and high-temperature stability.

Growth in hybrid vehicle adoption, particularly in North America and Japan, is increasing demand for lubricants tailored to start-stop systems, variable load cycles, and thermal control.

OEM-driven performance requirements and service fill mandates are accelerating the rollout of certified GF-6 and pre-development of GF-7 formulations with enhanced durability and compatibility.

Despite strong growth potential, the ILSAC GF-6 and GF-7 lubricants market faces several challenges:

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Rising formulation complexity and R&D investment required to meet evolving specifications, which can increase production timelines and costs.

Limited applicability to regional markets, as ILSAC standards are primarily adopted in North America and Japan, with other geographies relying on ACEA or OEM-specific standards.

Extended drain intervals and engine downsizing trends may moderate aftermarket lubricant volumes, particularly in mature markets with high OEM fill rates.

ILSAC GF-6 and GF-7 Lubricants Market Key Players and Competition Synopsis

The global ILSAC GF-6 and GF-7 lubricants market is characterized by a rapidly advancing competitive environment, driven by the evolving needs of automotive OEMs, regulatory compliance pressures, and innovations in engine design. Established lubricant giants such as ExxonMobil, Shell, BP Castrol, Chevron, and TotalEnergies, along with additive specialists like Lubrizol, Infineum, and Afton Chemical, are leading the charge in formulating next-generation lubricants that meet the stringent requirements of modern engines, including turbocharged and hybrid platforms.

These industry leaders are focused on developing high-performance engine oils that deliver improved fuel efficiency, enhanced engine cleanliness, low-speed pre-ignition (LSPI) protection, and compatibility with extended drain intervals. The GF-6 standard, currently in wide adoption, sets the groundwork for addressing these challenges, while the upcoming GF-7 specification is poised to introduce even higher performance thresholds, particularly for hybrid powertrains and ultra-low-viscosity oils.

In addition to the dominant players, a growing pool of regional blenders and technology-driven lubricant firms are entering the market with tailored formulations, niche performance additives, and flexible manufacturing capabilities. These emerging players aim to capitalize on regional preferences, OEM-specific approvals, and the transition toward full-synthetic and low-viscosity grades.

Competition in the ILSAC GF-6 and GF-7 lubricants market is shaped by additive innovation, base oil optimization, strategic OEM collaborations, and the pursuit of certification under evolving industry standards. As demand continues to grow across North America, Japan, and select global markets, suppliers are focused on offering

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robust, future-ready lubricant solutions that align with the next generation of high-efficiency and hybrid engines.

Some prominent names established in the ILSAC GF-6 and GF-7 Lubricants Market are:

ExxonMobil

Shell

BP Castrol

Chevron

TotalEnergies

Valvoline

Lubrizol

Infineum

Afton Chemical

SK Lubricants

Idemitsu

Petronas

Sinopec

Petro-Canada Lubricants

Regions Covered

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