In your fast-paced work environment, it is difficult to keep track of all the government guidelines, regulations and programs that emerge. However, you can trust that Lubriplate® Lubricants is committed to obtaining the latest government registrations that will ensure you are acting in both an eco-friendly and safe way.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) BioPreferred® Program

Authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, the USDA BioPreferred® program includes a preferred Federal purchasing program and a voluntary labeling program for biobased products. Recently, Lubriplate® Bio-Based Series Hydraulic Oils (Part No. L1050-, L1051- & L1052-) and Biodegradable Penetrating Fluid (Part No. L0721-) earned USDA BioPreferred® designations. The packaging of these products will soon be affixed with the USDA Certified Biobased Product label to signify Lubriplate’s participation. In addition, these two products are now USDA BioPreferred® designated hydraulic fluids and multipurpose, penetrating lubricants for Federal/Federal Agency preferred purchasing.

Please visit http://www.biopreferred.gov to learn more about the USDA BioPreferred® program.

Again this USDA program is strictly concerned with the biobased percentage of products, rather than biodegradability. According to the 2002 Farm Bill, the term “biobased” refers to commercial or industrial products (other than food or feed) that are composed in whole, or in significant part, of biological products, renewable agricultural materials (including plant, animal, and marine materials), or forestry materials; in other words biobased refers to the make-up of the product. Biodegradable is defined by the EPA and ASTM as those materials with the capacity to decompose under natural conditions. Both of these products remain ultimately biodegradable (Pw1), which means that a minimum of 60% will be converted to carbon dioxide in 28 days or less. This is the highest and fastest level of biodegradability.

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Antimicrobial Capability in Food-Grade Lubricants

With all of the recent reports of bacteria, listeria and mold infestation in the food supply, antimicrobial capability in NSF/H-1 registered food-grade lubricants is an extremely relevant topic. According to the EPA, lubricant manufacturers are required to register their antimicrobial additive as a pesticide with the agency before mass-promoting this feature. In order for the additive to be accepted as a pesticide, a series of studies must be done, including sample analyses of representative samples of the additive, chemical and physical property data testing and analytical method testing. The completion of a variety of administrative forms and the gathering of a compilation of published literature on the additive is also required. We are proud to announce that Lubriplate® has begun the process of registering its antimicrobial additive candidate with the EPA. If approved by the EPA, the additive will be incorporated into all Lubriplate® NSF/H-1 registered food-grade lubricants. A name for the additive has been selected and it has been registered as a trademark with the U.S. Trademark and Patent Agency.