

11: Guide values for the contamination factor V

(D-d)/2 mm	V	Point contact required oil cleanliness class according to ISO 4406 ¹⁾	guide values for filtration ratio according to ISO 4572	Line contact required oil cleanliness class according to ISO 4406 ¹⁾	guide values for filtration ratio according to ISO 4572
≤ 12.5	0.3	11/8	$\beta_3 \geq 200$	12/9	$\beta_3 \geq 200$
	0.5	12/9	$\beta_3 \geq 200$	13/10	$\beta_3 \geq 75$
	1	14/11	$\beta_6 \geq 75$	15/12	$\beta_6 \geq 75$
	2	15/12	$\beta_6 \geq 75$	16/13	$\beta_{12} \geq 75$
	3	16/13	$\beta_{12} \geq 75$	17/14	$\beta_{25} \geq 75$
> 12.5 ... 20	0.3	12/9	$\beta_3 \geq 200$	13/10	$\beta_3 \geq 75$
	0.5	13/10	$\beta_3 \geq 75$	14/11	$\beta_6 \geq 75$
	1	15/12	$\beta_6 \geq 75$	16/13	$\beta_{12} \geq 75$
	2	16/13	$\beta_{12} \geq 75$	17/14	$\beta_{25} \geq 75$
	3	18/14	$\beta_{25} \geq 75$	19/15	$\beta_{25} \geq 75$
> 20 ... 35	0.3	13/10	$\beta_3 \geq 75$	14/11	$\beta_6 \geq 75$
	0.5	14/11	$\beta_6 \geq 75$	15/12	$\beta_6 \geq 75$
	1	16/13	$\beta_{12} \geq 75$	17/14	$\beta_{12} \geq 75$
	2	17/14	$\beta_{25} \geq 75$	18/15	$\beta_{25} \geq 75$
	3	19/15	$\beta_{25} \geq 75$	20/16	$\beta_{25} \geq 75$
> 35	0.3	14/11	$\beta_6 \geq 75$	14/11	$\beta_6 \geq 75$
	0.5	15/12	$\beta_6 \geq 75$	15/12	$\beta_{12} \geq 75$
	1	17/14	$\beta_{12} \geq 75$	18/14	$\beta_{25} \geq 75$
	2	18/15	$\beta_{25} \geq 75$	19/16	$\beta_{25} \geq 75$
	3	20/16	$\beta_{25} \geq 75$	21/17	$\beta_{25} \geq 75$

The oil cleanliness class can be determined by means of oil samples by filter manufacturers and institutes. It is a measure of the probability of life-reducing particles being cycled in a bearing. Suitable sampling should be observed (see e.g. DIN 51 750). Today, on-line measuring instruments are available. The cleanliness classes are reached if the entire oil volume flows through the filter within a few minutes. To ensure a high degree of cleanliness flushing is required **prior to bearing operation**.

For example, filtration ratio $\beta_3 \geq 200$ (ISO 4572) means that in the so-called multi-pass test only one of 200 particles $\geq 3 \mu\text{m}$ passes through the filter. Filters with coarser filtration ratios than $\beta_{25} \geq 75$ should not be used due to the ill effect on the other components within the circulation system.

¹⁾ Only particles with a hardness > 50 HRC have to be taken into account.

12: Oil cleanliness classes according to ISO 4406 (excerpt)

Number of particles per 100 ml				Code
over 5 µm		over 15 µm		
more than	up to	more than	up to	
500000	1000000	64000	130000	20/17
250000	500000	32000	64000	19/16
130000	250000	16000	32000	18/15
64000	130000	8000	16000	17/14
32000	64000	4000	8000	16/13
16000	32000	2000	4000	15/12
8000	16000	1000	2000	14/11
4000	8000	500	1000	13/10
2000	4000	250	500	12/9
1000	2000	130	250	11/8
1000	2000	64	130	11/7
500	1000	32	64	10/6
250	500	32	64	9/6