Supporting information

# Towards outstanding lubricity performance of proton-type

## ionic liquids or synergistic effects with Friction Modifier used as oil

### additives at steel/steel interface

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### 1. Characterization of ILs.

**P<sub>6</sub>DMA**<sub>10:</sub> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.87 – 3.62 (m, 4H), 3.00 – 2.86 (m, 2H), 2.77 (s, 6H), 1.84 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.58 – 1.49 (m, 2H), 1.48 – 1.41 (m, 2H), 1.41 – 1.12 (m, 29H), 0.94 – 0.72 (m, 15H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 67.4, 67.3, 57.3, 42.3, 40.0, 39.9, 31.5, 30.0, 29.1, 29.0, 28.9, 28.8, 28.7, 26.4, 23.9, 23.0, 22.7, 22.3, 13.7, 13.6, 10.6.

**P<sub>6</sub>DMA**<sub>12:</sub> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.87 – 3.65 (m, 4H), 2.95 – 2.82 (m, 2H), 2.75 (s, 6H), 1.83 – 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.56 – 1.48 (m, 2H), 1.46 – 1.41 (m, 2H), 1.40 – 1.11 (m, 33H), 0.88 (m, 15H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 67.7, 67.6, 57.6, 42.6, 40.3, 40.2, 31.8, 30.0, 29.5, 29.4, 29.3, 29.2, 29.1, 28.9, 26.6, 24.1, 23.3, 23.0, 22.5, 14.0, 10.9.

**P<sub>6</sub>DMA**<sub>14:</sub> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.84 – 3.65 (m, 4H), 2.98 – 2.84 (m, 2H), 2.74 (s, 6H), 1.75 (s, 2H), 1.53 (m, 2H), 1.44 (m, 2H), 1.38 – 1.17 (m, 37H), 0.88 (m, 15H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 67.4, 67.3, 57.4, 42.4, 40.1, 40.0, 31.6, 29.8, 29.3, 29.3, 29.2, 29.1, 29.0, 28.9, 28.7, 26.5, 24.0, 23.1, 22.8, 22.4, 13.8, 10.7.



### 2. Characterization of lubrication samples.

Fig. S1 Optical photograph of all lubricant samples

#### 3. Friction test.



**Fig. S2** (a) Evolution of COFs with time of PAO10, PAO10 with the mass addition of  $C_1\% P_6DMA_{10}$  ( $C_1=1,3,5,7$ ) (392 N, 1450r/min, 25 °C) (b) Evolution of COFs with time of PAO10, PAO10 with the mass addition of  $C_1\% P_6DMA_{12}$  ( $C_1=1,3,5,7$ ) (392 N, 1450r/min, 25 °C) (c) Evolution of COFs with time of PAO10, PAO10 with the mass addition of  $C_1\% P_6DMA_{14}$  ( $C_1=1,3,5,7$ ) (392 N, 1450r/min, 25 °C) (d) corresponding average COFs and WSDs of all samples (392 N, 1450r/min, 25 °C).



Fig. S3 SEM photographs of different additive components



Fig. S4 specific compositional content of the composition

 $^1\mathrm{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\mathrm{C}$  spectra of three ionic liquids.

P<sub>6</sub>DMA<sub>10</sub>











