WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A crankcase lubricating oil composition comprising or made by admixing:

(A) an oil of lubricating viscosity, in a major amount;

(B) an oil-soluble or oil-dispersible molybdenum-containing additive, providing from 600-1500 ppm of molybdenum atoms to the lubricating oil composition,

(C) a detergent composition comprising one or more magnesium sulfonate detergents in an amount providing from 200 to 4000 ppm magnesium atoms to the lubricating oil composition, measured according to ASTM D5185, and

(D) an oil-soluble or oil-dispersible boron-containing compound present in the lubricating oil composition in an amount sufficient to provide from 200-600 ppm boron atoms to the lubricating oil composition, measured according to ASTM D5185.

2. A lubricating oil composition according to claim 1, wherein the detergent composition comprises one or more additional detergent additive chosen from magnesium salicylate, calcium salicylate, calcium sulfonate, magnesium phenate, calcium phenate, hybrid detergents comprising two or more of these additional detergent additives and/or combinations thereof.

3. A lubricating oil composition according to claim 2, wherein the detergent composition further comprises a calcium salicylate and/or a calcium sulfonate detergent.

4. A lubricating oil composition according to claim 3, wherein the detergent composition consists of a one or more magnesium sulfonate detergents and one or more calcium salicylate detergents.

5. A lubricating oil composition according to claim 3 or 4, where in the calcium-containing detergent is present in an amount sufficient to provide from 500-4000 ppm, preferably from 750-3000ppm more preferably from 900-2000 ppm atomic calcium to the lubricating oil composition, measured according to ASTM D5185.

6. A method of lubricating a spark-ignited or compression-ignited internal combustion engine comprising lubricating the engine with a lubricating oil composition as defined in accordance with any one of the preceding claims.

7. The use of a magnesium-containing detergent in a crankcase lubricating oil composition in an amount sufficient to provide from 200-4000 ppm magnesium to the lubricating oil composition, to reduce the boundary friction measurement compared to an equivalent lubricant that does not contain the magnesium-containing detergent in an amount sufficient to provide from 200-4000ppm magnesium to the lubricating oil composition, measured according to ASTM D5185.

8. The use according to claim 7, wherein the magnesium-containing detergent is one or more magnesium sulfonate detergent.

9. The use according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the lubricating oil composition further comprises an oil-soluble or oil-dispersible molybdenum-containing additive, providing from 600-1500 ppm of molybdenum atoms to the lubricating oil composition (ASTM D5185).

10. The use according to any one of claims 7, 8 or 9, wherein the lubricating oil composition further comprises an oil-soluble or oil-dispersible boron-containing additive, providing from 200-600 ppm of boron atoms to the lubricating oil composition (ASTM D5185).

11. The use according to any one of claims 7-10, wherein detergent composition further comprises one or more additional detergent additives chosen from magnesium salicylate, magnesium phenate, calcium salicylate, calcium phenate and/or calcium sulfonate.

12. A use according to any one of claims 7-11, wherein the detergent composition consists of a one or more magnesium sulfonate detergents and one or more calcium-containing detergents.

13. A use according to claim 12, wherein the detergent composition consists of a one or more magnesium sulfonate detergents and one or more calcium salicylate detergents.

14. A use according to claim 12 or 13, where in the calcium-containing detergent is present in an amount sufficient to provide from 500-4000 ppm, preferably from 750-3000ppm more preferably from 900-2000 ppm atomic calcium to the lubricating oil composition, measured according to ASTM D5185.

15. The use, in the crankcase lubrication of a spark-ignited or compression-ignited internal combustion engine, of a lubricating oil composition in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 5 to reduce the coefficient of friction between contacting metal surfaces in the engine during operation of the engine compared to the use of a lubricant that does not contain the magnesium-containing detergent in an amount sufficient to provide from 200-4000ppm magnesium to the lubricating oil composition (ASTM D5185).