CLAIMS

1. A diesel fuel composition suitable for use in an internal combustion engine comprising:

(a) 2 mass % to 30 mass % of Fischer-Tropsch derived kerosene having a kinematic viscosity at 40°C of 1.5 mm^2/s or less and a density of 810 kg/m^3 or less, wherein the Fischer-Tropsch derived kerosene consists of at least 95% w/w of paraffinic components, and wherein the Fischer-Tropsch derived kerosene comprises no more than 3% w/w of cycloparaffins and no more than 1% w/w of olefins, by weight of the Fischer-Tropsch derived kerosene;

(b) 2 mass % to 20 mass % of Fischer-Tropsch derived base oil having a kinematic viscosity at 40°C of 7.5 mm^2/s or greater and a density of 790 kg/m^3 or greater, wherein the Fischer-Tropsch derived base oil consists of at least 95% w/w of paraffinic components, and wherein the Fischer-Tropsch derived base oil comprises no more than 3% w/w of cycloparaffins and no more than 1% w/w of olefins, by weight of the Fischer-Tropsch derived base oil; and

(c) diesel base fuel.

2. The diesel fuel composition according to claim 1 having a kinematic viscosity at 40°C of 1.9 mm^2/s or greater.

3. The diesel fuel composition according to claim 1 having a density of 800 kg/m^3 or greater.

4. The diesel fuel composition according to claim 1 having a T95 of 360°C or less.

5. The diesel fuel composition according to claim 1 having a cloud point in the range from 0°C to -13°C.

6. The diesel fuel composition according to claim 1 having a CFPP in the range of from -8°C to -30°C.

7. The diesel fuel composition according to claim 1 wherein the diesel fuel composition comprises 100 ppm or less of middle distillate flow improver additives.

8. The diesel fuel composition according to claim 1 wherein the diesel fuel composition is free of middle distillate flow improver additives.

9. A process for preparing a diesel fuel composition wherein the process comprises the steps of:

(i) blending 2 mass % to 30 mass %, by mass of the diesel fuel composition, of Fischer-Tropsch derived kerosene, with 2 mass % to 20 mass %, by mass of the diesel fuel composition, of Fischer-Tropsch derived base oil to form a kerosene-based fuel blend, wherein the Fischer-Tropsch derived kerosene has a kinematic viscosity at 40°C of 1.5 mm^2/s or less and a density of 810 kg/m^3 or less, wherein the Fischer-Tropsch derived kerosene consists of at least 95% w/w of paraffinic components and wherein the Fischer-Tropsch derived kerosene comprises no more than 1% w/w of cycloparaffins and no more than 1% w/w of olefins, by weight of the Fischer-Tropsch derived kerosene, and wherein the Fischer-Tropsch derived base oil has a kinematic viscosity at 40°C of 7.5 mm^2/s or greater and a density of 790 kg/m^3 or greater, wherein the Fischer-Tropsch derived base oil consists of at least 95% w/w of paraffinic components, and wherein the Fischer-Tropsch derived base oil comprises no more than 1% w/w of cycloparaffins and no more than 1% w/w of olefins, by weight of the Fischer-Tropsch derived base oil; and

(ii) blending the kerosene-based fuel blend produced in step (i) with a diesel base fuel to produce a diesel fuel composition.

10. The diesel fuel composition prepared according to the process of claim 9.

11. A method of operating a diesel engine or a vehicle which is powered by one or more of said engines, which method comprises a step of introducing into said engine a fuel composition according to claim 1.