

2002 Ford Mustang GT V8-4.6L SOHC VIN X

Vehicle > Technical Service Bulletins

ALUMINUM ENGINE - NEW CLEANERS/SERVICE TIPS

Article No.

02-11-4

06/10/02

ENGINE - NEW GASKET REMOVER/CLEANER AND
SERVICE TIPS FOR ALUMINUM HEADS AND
BLOCKS

FORD:

1992-1997 THUNDERBIRD

1992-2002 ESCORT, MUSTANG, TAURUS

1992-2003 CROWN VICTORIA

1995-2000 CONTOUR

2000-2002 FOCUS

2002 THUNDERBIRD

1995-2002 WINDSTAR

1997-2002 E SERIES, EXPLORER, F-150

1997-2003 EXPEDITION

1999-2002 SUPER DUTY F SERIES

2000-2002 EXCURSION

2001-2002 ESCAPE

LINCOLN:

1992-2002 CONTINENTAL

1992-2003 TOWN CAR

2000-2002 LS

1998-2003 NAVIGATOR

2002 BLACKWOOD

MERCURY:

1992-1997 COUGAR

1992-1999 TRACER

1992-2002 SABLE

1992-2003 GRAND MARQUIS

1995-2000 MYSTIQUE

1999-2002 COUGAR

1993-2002 VILLAGER

1997-2002 MOUNTAINEER

ISSUE

Gasket removal, especially on multi-layered steel (MLS) head gaskets may leave behind a residue that is difficult to remove from the sealing surface. Effectively immediately, two new cleaning products are released to the field for use

in removing gasket and oil residue from aluminum cylinder heads. These products are available and are recommended whenever a cylinder head is removed from the engine. The purpose of these cleaners is to ensure a safe cleaning process is available which will not threaten the integrity of the sealing surface of the head.

ACTION

If petroleum residues are left behind neither the MLS gasket nor RTV will adhere to metal and bond properly as designed. In this scenario, a gasket or RTV bead will only act as a "compression" gasket, which is insufficient to seal the area. Preparing the surface with the products listed herein will leave a clean, dry surface in which new replacement gasket can bond with the metal.

SERVICE INFORMATION

"Motorcraft Silicone Gasket Remover" (MotorCraft part number, ZC-30) is a softening and loosening agent which attacks RTV and residue left behind by a multi-layered steel gasket. It is packaged in a pliable tube in gel form. It sits on the residue build-up breaking down the bond between the RTV and the metal by working in a more concentrated form.

PART NUMBER	PART NAME
ZC-30	Motorcraft Silicone Gasket Remover
ZC-31	Motorcraft Metal Surface Prep

The second product which is used as a follow up to the Gasket Remover is "Motorcraft Surface Prep" (Motorcraft part number, ZC-31) and is packaged in a small can with applicator brush. This is used as a surface preparation to rid the sealing area of oil, coolant residue and residual RTV before installing the gasket and before RTV is applied to tee-joints.

Surface Cleaning And Preparation:

This is a crucial step in the success of a head gasket repair. The set-up time to soften RTV will vary, depending on the thickness of the residue left behind. Remove as much of the 'old material as possible with a plastic or wooden scraper. without damaging the aluminum with score marks or depressions. Coat the surface liberally with Motorcraft Silicone Gasket Remover (ZC-30). Allow the softener to act on the remaining residue and remove it with plastic or wood scrapers only. Next, coat the surface with Motorcraft Metal Surface Prep (ZC-31), let sit for several minutes (depending on amount of residue) then wipe clean with a lint-free cloth. This will remove any remaining deposit or residue and prepare the surface to receive RTV and the MLS gasket.

Use of power sanding, grinding, and buffing equipment is unauthorized for warranty repairs. Use of manual grinding and scraping aids which include sandpaper, razor blades, or metal scrapers is not authorized. Resurfacing of aluminum machined head gasket surfaces is also unauthorized for repair by Ford Motor Company.

Plastic or wood scrapers in conjunction with the new gasket remover and surface preparation products identified in this bulletin are the only products allowed for servicing Ford aluminum cylinder heads.

For older engines using composite gaskets it is recommended that a steam application (power steam jenny or dip tank) be directed at the hard residue.

This will re-hydrate the material and soften it sufficiently to use a plastic or wood scraper for removal. It is still recommended to apply a coating of ZC-31, Motorcraft Surface Metal Prep, to rid the surface of all coolant and oil residue. RTV and silicone bead gaskets will not bond to the surface if there is a film left behind.

OTHER APPLICABLE ARTICLES: NONE

WARRANTY STATUS: INFORMATION ONLY

OASIS CODES: 401000, 402000, 499000