mercruiser
STERN DRIVES & INBOARDS

service bulletin

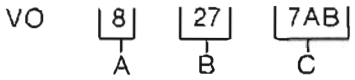
TO: SERVICE MANAGER ☐ MECHANICS ☐
PARTS MANAGER ☐

No. 86-29

Oil Pressure Changes in 1987 MCM Stern Drive Engines and MIE Inboard Engines

To improve oil pressure in our 305 CID (5L) and 350 CID (5.7L) engines, MerCruiser requested G.M. to install a stiffer oil pressure relief spring in the oil pumps. This new spring can be identified by its yellow color and will raise the oil pressure by approximately 10-15 PSI (69-103 kPa). Unfortunately some engines were received from G.M. with a white oil pressure relief spring which raises the oil pressure and additional 20 to 30 PSI (138-207 kPa) above the engines with the yellow spring. Although this extra oil pressure will not cause any problems with engine operation, to stop any confusion in the field, boats with dual engine applications should be rigged with engines equipped with the same oil pressure relief springs.

Identification of engines with the white spring can be made using the G.M. engine code located on the front of the engine near the water circulation pump. The G.M. engine code includes the build date of the engine which identifies the engines with the white oil pressure relief spring (Figure 1).



a - Month
b - Day
c - Model

Figure 1. G.M. Engine Code

Following is a list of G.M. engine codes for engines assembled with the white oil pressure relief spring.

MCM 350 Magnum MCM 260 5.7L Ski L.H. Rotation	VO8277AB VO9057AB	Thru
MCM 230 MIE 230 L.H. Rotation	VO9047PD VO9057PD	Thru
MIE 260 L.H. Rotation	VO8277AN VO9027AN	Thru
MIE 260 R.H. Rotation 5.7L Ski R.H. Rotation	VO9027AR VO9057AR	Thru

Oil pressure readings at W.O.T. may go as high as 70 PSI (483 kPa) with the yellow spring and 95-100 PSI (655-690 kPa) with the white spring. These readings are normal especially if the engine is cold.