

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION
Under the U.S. Federal Boat Safety Act

NUMBER: 83-28

CIRCULATE TO:
SERVICE MANAGER
PARTS MANAGER
MECHANICS
"Place in a Service
Bulletin Binder"

TR, TRS, 215E and 215H GIMBAL RING FIX

It has come to our attention that the gimbal ring on some MerCruiser TR, TRS, 215E and 215H Stern Drives could crack where it connects to the swivel shaft. If this should occur, it could cause loss of steering control.

The potential problem is isolated to stern drives equipped with "square swivel shaft" type gimbal rings. (Figure 1) These gimbal rings were used as original equipment on newer TR and TRS models (with transom assembly Serial No. 6037486 and above). The gimbal ring also was included in Swivel Shaft Kit (93305A1), which was designated for use on 215E, 215H and older TR and TRS models.

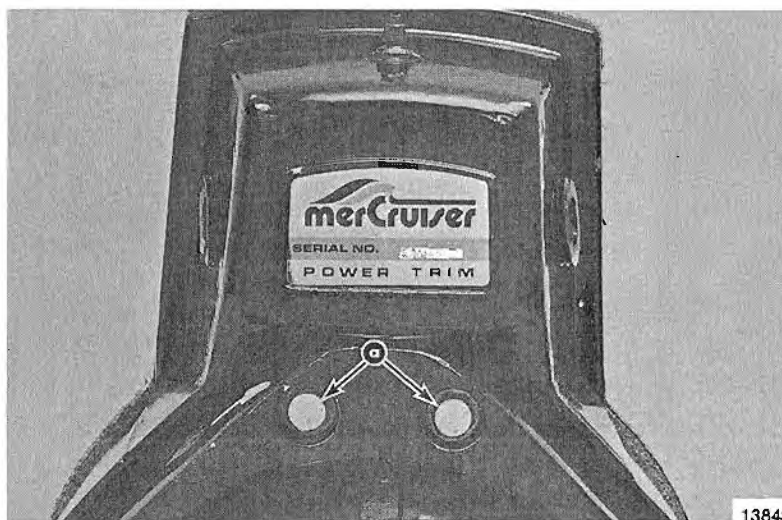


Figure 1. "Square Swivel Shaft" Type Gimbal Ring

A Clamp Bracket Kit (41456A1) is to be installed on all units equipped with the "square swivel shaft" type gimbal ring. (Figure 2)

The attached letter is being sent to all registered owners of TR and TRS Stern Drives, which were equipped at the factory with "square swivel shaft" type gimbal rings. The letter instructs the owner to inspect his unit and to contact an Authorized MerCruiser Servicing Dealer for a modification if his unit is equipped with the subject gimbal ring. This modification will be performed at no-charge to the owner. A Clamp Bracket Kit also should be installed on any new boat in your inventory which has the subject gimbal ring.

It is not possible for Mercury Marine to locate and notify the owners of 215E, 215H, TR and TRS Stern Drives, which have been equipped with replacement Swivel Shaft Kit (93305A1). Because of this, we need your assistance. If you have installed any of these kits, we ask that you contact the owners of these units and perform the modification. Also, whenever you are servicing one of

the subject stern drive models, inspect the unit for a "square swivel shaft" type gimbal ring and, if necessary, perform the modification.

Install Clamp Bracket Kit in accordance with instructions accompanying it. Submit a warranty claim for kit installation, being sure to include the engine serial number and, if so equipped, the transom assembly serial number. Several kit installations can be included on one warranty claim to save time. Warranty labor allowance is 0.5 hours for each kit.

If you should find a unit with a cracked gimbal ring, a Swivel Shaft Kit (42385A3) should be installed. Installation instructions are provided with the kit. Return the failed gimbal ring with the completed warranty claim.

Future TR/TRS transom assemblies will be equipped with a gimbal ring utilizing a U-bolt at the top connection. (Figure 3) This gimbal ring also will be used in Swivel Shaft Kit (42385A3) and Gimbal Ring Assembly (42385A1).



Figure 2. Clamp Bracket Kit (41456A1) Installed



Figure 3. U-Bolt Style Gimbal Ring

Swivel Shaft Kit (93305A1) and Gimbal Ring Assembly (93304A2) will be superseded to the aforementioned parts. If you have any of these items in your inventory, return them to your Mercury Marine Parts Distribution Center for credit. List the parts being returned on a warranty claim.

New Parts Associated With Fix Program

- Clamp Bracket Kit (41456A1)

- Swivel Shaft Kit (42385A3)

- Gimbal Ring Assembly (42385A1)

*Has gimbal ring in kit
will convert old style to
new style*