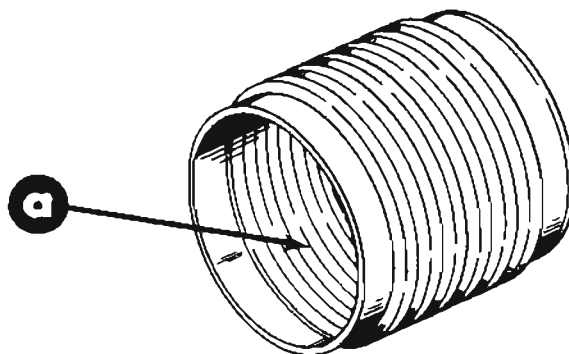


- A. Universal Joint Bellows Chafing Thru on MerCruiser 898R/228R/260R/200MR/230MR/260MR Drive Shaft Extension Models
- B. Universal Joint Bellows Lubrication on TR/TRS Models
- C. Stern Drive Unit Decals

CIRCULATE TO:
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MECHANICS
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A. UNIVERSAL JOINT BELLOWS CHAFING THRU ON MERCUISER 898R/228R/260R/200MR/230MR/260MR DRIVE SHAFT EXTENSION MODELS

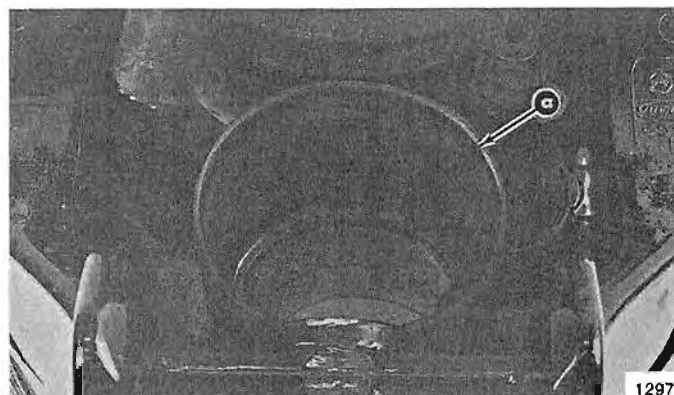
It has been brought to our attention that the universal joint bellows may chafe thru on these models. (Figure 1) The problem results from excessive exhaust gas back pressure that causes the exhaust bellows to "balloon-out" and contact the universal joint bellows. This pushes the universal joint bellows against the rotating U-joints and causes the chafing condition.



a - Bellows Chafe Thru At 6 - 7 O'Clock Position

Figure 1. Universal Joint Bellows Chafing

To eliminate the problem, the exhaust bellows should be removed and replaced with exhaust tube 78458A1. (Figure 2) This should be done whenever you are servicing one of these models. Universal joint bellows also should be inspected and replaced if chafed. Labor allowance for installation of exhaust tube is 0.5 hours. Add 2.0 hours if replacement of universal joint bellows is necessary. Bellows must be returned with warranty claim. Future production models will include the exhaust tube as standard equipment.



a - Exhaust Tube 78458A1

Figure 2. Exhaust Tube Installation

B. UNIVERSAL JOINT BELLOWS LUBRICATION ON TR/TRS MODELS

The life of the universal joint bellows on TR/TRS models used in work applications (where continuous steering cycling is necessary) can be extended by lubricating the outer surface of the bellows with 2-4-C Multi-Lube 92-90018A12. Apply lubricant every 50 hours of operation or 30 days whichever occurs first.

C. STERN DRIVE UNIT DECALS

When installing the stern drive unit on a new MerCruiser 120MR-thru-260MR power package, be sure to install the displacement and cylinder configuration decals. (Figures 3 and 4) These decals are shipped in the owners manual and warranty package.

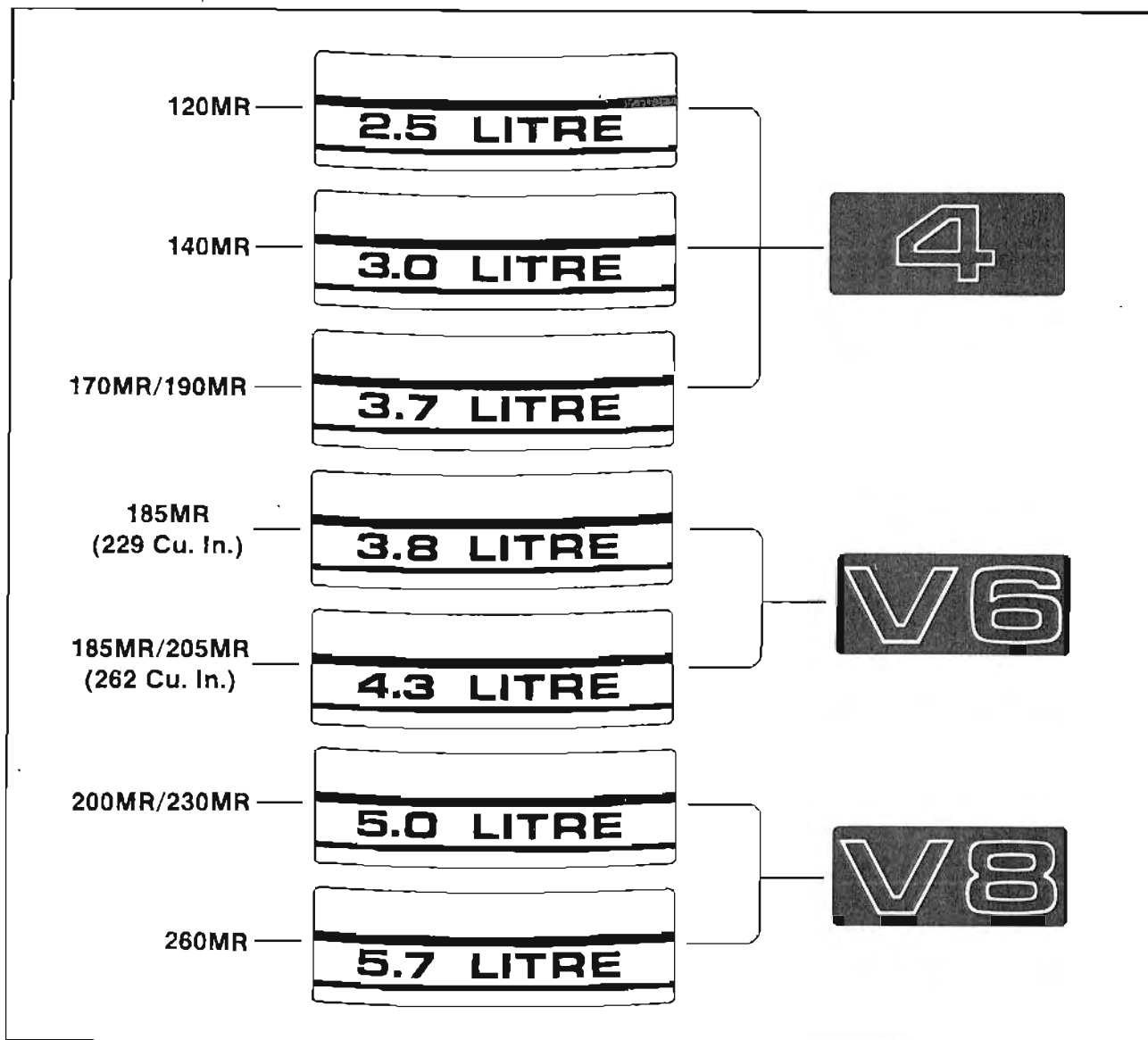


Figure 3. Liter Displacement and Cylinder Configuration Decals

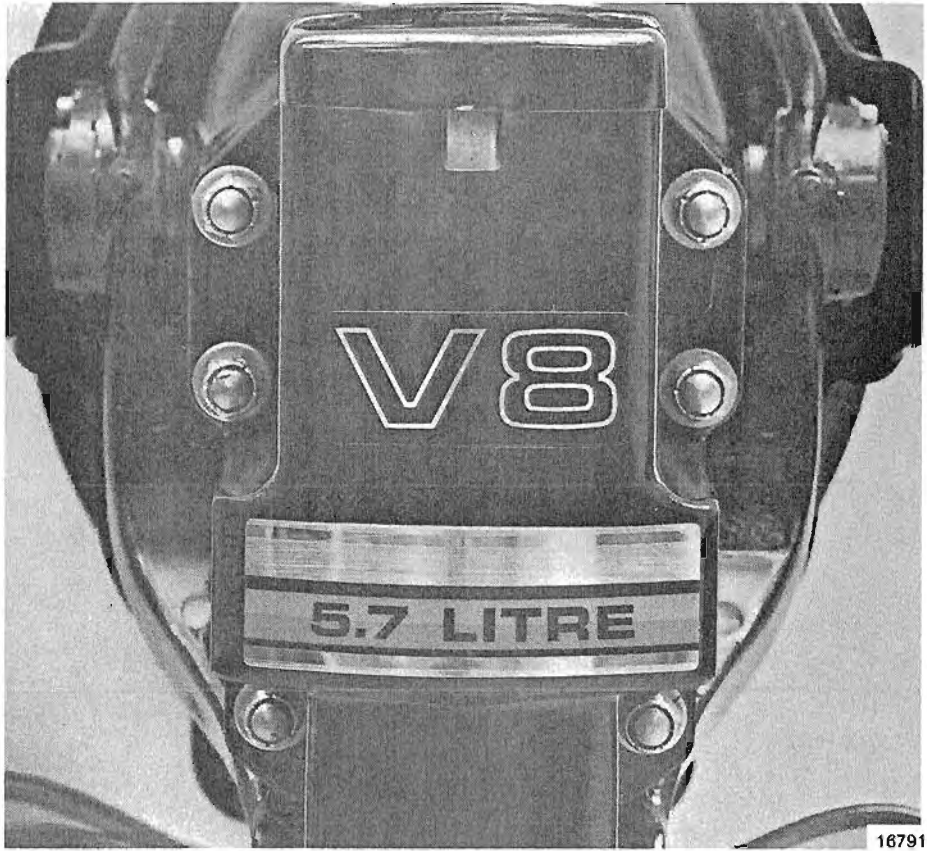


Figure 4. Decals Installed