

June 2006 Technical Service

This Service Information bulletin supersedes Measure B11 202 04 dated July 2004

SUBJECT

Head Bolt Threads Pulling Out of Block During Engine Reassembly

MODEL

All Models equipped with M52TU and M54

SITUATION

While performing the torque procedure on the cylinder head during engine reassembly, the head bolt threads strip out of the block. Typically, this occurs during the repair of an engine that has been overheated.

CAUSE

Overheat condition has weakened the structure of the aluminum block assembly in the area of the bolt threads.

PROCEDURE

In cases where an M54 engine needs to be disassembled due to an overheating event, the following steps should be taken:

- Before removing the cylinder head, loosen and re-torque each head bolt to ensure thread strength and integrity.
- If **all** head bolts achieve correct torque, proceed with cylinder head removal. Once removed, use a straight edge on the block surface, as well as the cylinder head, to determine any deviation caused by the overheat. Be especially aware of any protrusion of the cylinder liners above the surface of the block.
- If a head bolt strips during the re-torque, replace the engine.

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