

Service Information No. 03 / 06

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Charge air cooler - water separator

M 43

The thermal condition of an engine depends on many factors. Today, the ever increasing charge air compression pressures, particularly when the engine is operated in the tropics, require a water separator arranged at the outlet of the charge air cooler.

The purpose of this water separator is to carry off **part** of the condensate forming when the charge air is cooled down.

We had to learn that some installed water separators of the current production version were affected by cracks when subjected to severe continuous operating conditions. At the beginning these cracks did not impair the function of the water separator. Unfortunately, these damages were only noticed when leaks occurred on the pipes of the charge air cooler due to parts that fell off as the cracks progressed.

We are working on a reinforced version that will replace the old water separator after its validation is completed.

Until then we recommend to check the water separators approximately every 1,000 operating hours. The best way to do this is to remove the end cover from the charge air duct and take a look inside.

If any cracks are found, please inform your responsible dealer by giving him a detailed description of the condition you ascertained. Your dealer will then coordinate the further course of action with you.

If the ship operates outside tropical waters, the water separator can also be removed. In such a case please notify your responsible dealer that the water separator has been removed.

Indicative of a leak on the charge air cooler can be loss of water in the compensation tank of the cooling water system