

Service Information No. 12 / 07

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Piston M32

We know that the reliability of the engine has top priority for our customers. Therefore, we closely follow the operating behavior of our engines during as well as far beyond the warranty period. This applies especially to the main components and enables us to detect potential for improvements even after long operation periods and to inform our customers accordingly

Contrary to previous knowledge, our follow-up has proven that the higher specific load on components of modern high-performance engines requires to limit the lifetime of the pistons. Therefore, we have set the following limits for the lifetime of the pistons built in engines type MaK M32:

72.000 operating hours for engines made in 1997 and prior
60.000 operating hours for engines made in 1998 and later

To minimize the risk of failures and the potential consequential damage, we strongly recommend to exchange pistons once they have reached the above mentioned limits.

By analysing random samples and available operating data together with our supplier, we have also determined that there are certain extraordinary operating conditions that can very rarely provoke failures of pistons in MaK M32 engines even before they have reached the operating hour-limits mentioned above.

Extraordinary operating conditions can be any of the following (but not limited to):

- Engine overspeed
- Light piston seizure/ piston jamming
- Wrong synchronization of generator sets
- Water hammer
- Faulty assembly of piston skirt and piston crown
- Greater disruptions of the combustion process

In case one of the above mentioned or similar events has been observed on your engine, we strongly recommend to exchange the respective piston(s). In cases of doubt, we recommend to perform the exchange for the sake of operating safety as well.

In case you need assistance to exchange pistons, please contact your local MaK dealer.