

Service Information

Caterpillar Motoren GmbH & Co. KG product support information for medium-speed engines

Engine platform: M43
Engine section: Connecting rod

Engine type: V & inline
Validity: until revoked

No. 0024M43 - Issue 1; October 11, 2024



Action: For immediate attention!

Connecting Rod Small End

During field inspections on M43 engines, a few connecting rod small ends were found with anomalies. There is a potential that such anomalies could lead to a risk of cracks forming in the area of the small end over time, which can lead to a fatigue fracture. A connecting rod failure can put the life and limb of personnel standing next to the engine at risk and pose a threat to the safety of the vessel.



WARNING

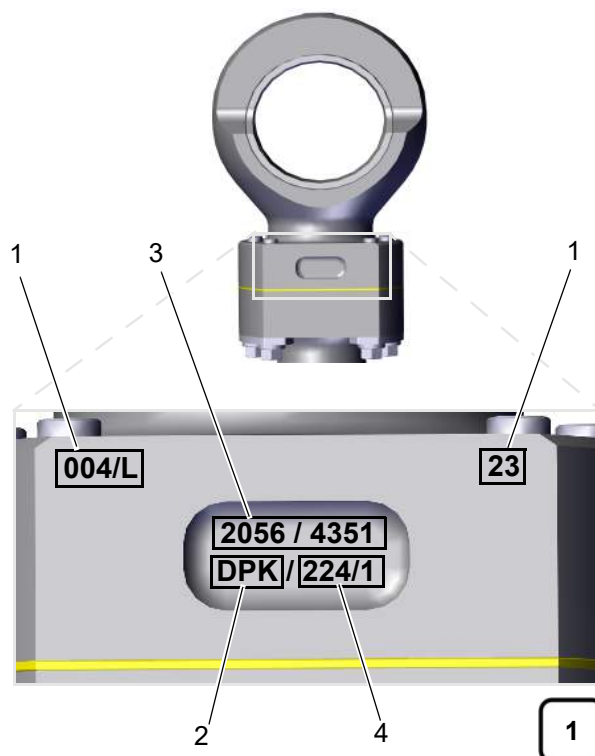
As a general precaution, personnel on board should avoid standing in the immediate vicinity of rotating equipment unless absolutely necessary.

To identify potentially affected small ends, please provide the following information on your engine and the spare connecting rods as shown in figure 1 immediately.

- Production lot & sequence number (1/1)
- Base material index (1/2)
- Die number (1/3)
- Base material forging number (1/4)

In addition, we recommend checking the small ends of your engine and spare connecting rods at the next opportunity using the procedure described in page two.

Your authorized **Caterpillar** dealer will provide further updates as soon as they become available.



Caterpillar Motoren GmbH & Co. KG, Kiel, Germany / E-mail: ju_tecservice@cat.com.

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Oil groove inspection of small end

1. Follow the steps listed in the job card **A5.05.02.08.01.10**
2. Perform a visual inspection of the oil groove (2/1) behind the small end bush (2/2).
3. If the surface of the oil groove has been clearly compressed/shot-peened (3/1), the tested connecting rod small end can be used for further engine operation.
4. If machining marks (4/1) are clearly visible in the oil groove of the small end, contact your authorized Caterpillar Dealer immediately to check whether the connecting rod needs to be replaced.
5. Take photos to document each oil groove, mark them with production lot and sequence number and share the photos with your authorized **Caterpillar** Dealer regardless of the results..

