

PRIMARY CHAIN TENSIONER / 1200; 1340 MODELS

The material used for the primary chain tensioner has recently been changed from a black color polyethylene to a white color Zytel material for improved durability and resistance to wear at high temperatures. Some accelerated tensioner wear has been reported under severe operating conditions at high air temperatures. This condition has not been experienced under normal operating conditions.

The black polyethylene tensioners were used in late 1978 and early 1979 FL and FX series motorcycles within the following range:

VIN 2A/2C/2F/5E/9D or 3G:

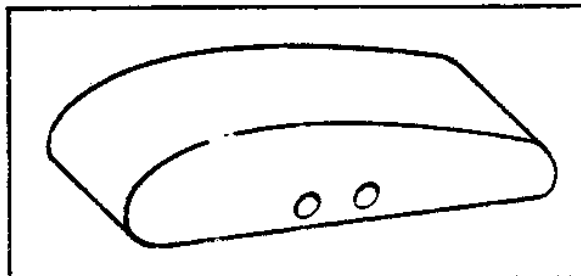
21911 H8 to 29960 H8
60000 H8 to 79676 H8
10000 H9 to 28846 H9.

The improved shoe white Zytel material was used in motorcycles above 29846 H9 and these motorcycles will not require tensioner change.

To prevent any possibility of a problem in motorcycles in service we request that you replace all existing black tensioners in customers' motorcycles at no charge. We also request that you replace all tensioners of affected motorcycles in your store and in your parts inventory as soon as possible.

These recommendations are being made to prevent possible engine/oil contamination from the worn tensioner particles. Accumulation of these particles in the oil filter and oil screen will be evident during an oil change. Eventually tappet lifter noise or primary oil return line blockage may occur.

As your servicing plan, we urge that you replace all tensioners in the affected motorcycle VIN range during the normal course of regular service or when contamination symptoms become evident.



As part of this plan, contact all other affected customers by phone or mail and arrange to have this service performed at some time during the off-season months.

We are shipping an initial quantity of new tensioners and chain cover gaskets to take care of your immediate requirements and are charging your account.

Order any additional requirements of the new tensioner under part No. 39976-65B. At the same time, order the required number of chain cover gaskets, part No. 60540-65A. As a basis for ordering, use the quantity of vehicles within the affected VIN range which were shipped to your dealership.

Return all black chain tensioners part No. 39976-65A, in your Parts Department inventory for credit as defective new parts, with a properly completed warranty claim form.

Submit a warranty claim form for each tensioner and chain cover gasket replaced, following normal warranty procedure, using special job code base No. 2005 with the proper model code prefix for labor credit. The parts which you remove must be returned to the factory with a properly completed warranty claim form. When your claims are processed, you will receive parts credit and labor credit of 0.4 hr. (FL series) and 0.3 hr. (FX series).

HARLEY-DAVIDSON MOTOR CO., INC.

[illegible]