

Enginetech Inc
Tech Assistance 800-410-3664 ext. 340 or 237

TECHNICAL BULLETIN	
	April 2003 TB 2062
Mfg: GM Model: SUBURBAN Liter: 7.4L V I N: J Year: 96-00	

Cracked Distributor Magnets For
1987-2002 GM Electronic Ignition Engines

The AERA Technical Department supplies the following information regarding cracked distributor magnets for some 1987-02 GM electronic distributor ignition engines. It has been reported, in some instances that affected distributors have been re-installed after an engine rebuild and caused eventual premature engine failure. Damage reported includes engine bearings and pistons with erroded crowns or ring lands. This type of ignition system is used on many GM engines.

The installation of a distributor with a crack(s) in this area, will lead to uncertain ignition impulses. If left installed and continued engine operation occurs, eventual engine damage is likely. This presence of these cracks may also have contributed to original engine failure.

It has been observed that cracked magnets in a distributor may lead to drivability problems and even detonation. In many instances, it has also been the cause the of original engine failure. Please note the cracks in the photo below are extreme. Most cracks are not this noticeable to the naked eye. Those unnoticeable cracks, however, do present the need to replace the distributor, as spark scatter will result during an undetermined engine load.

The AERA Technical Committee

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Bulletin Diagram: MULTIPLE CRACKS IN MAGNET - FAILURE ANALYSIS



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