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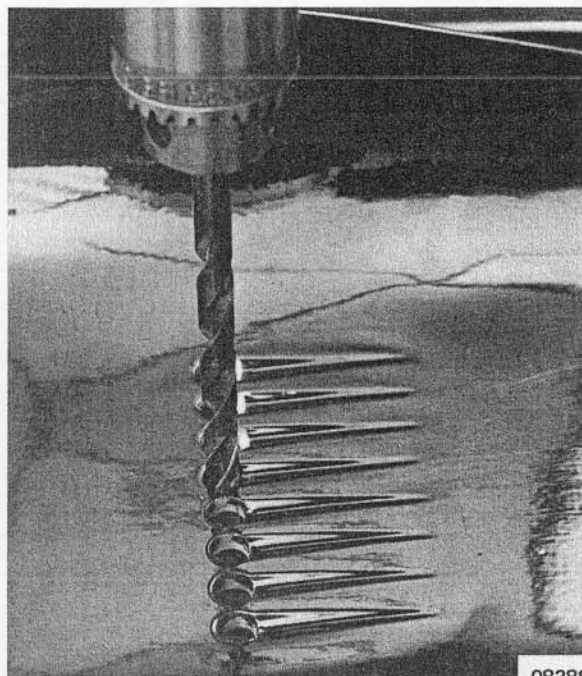
A. MERCURISER 888 OVERHEATING

(Attach Bulletin Reference Sticker to P. 6B-1 of Your Service Manual.)

If a MerCruiser 888 Engine, with drive unit Serial No. 3909578 and below, continues to run hot or overheats after the water pump impeller, thermostat, manifolds and engine condition have been checked, the gear housing can be modified to help remedy the condition. Drive units with Serial No. 3909579 and above have a new intake water screen and DO NOT need modification. Proceed with modification as follows:

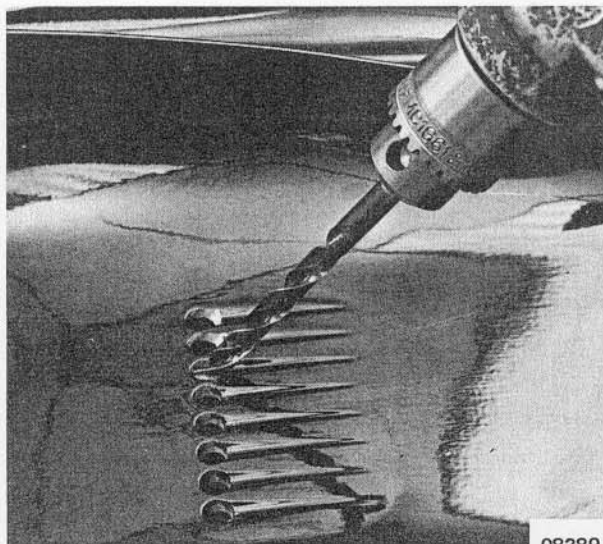
1. Drill perpendicular into top water pickup hole with a 1/4" drill, allowing the drill to penetrate only slightly into the cavity. (Figure 1) Rotate the drill slowly toward the front of the gear housing, keeping it parallel to the cavitation plate until a 45° angle is reached. (Figure 2)

CAUTION: DO NOT allow the drill end to penetrate deeper than the housing wall thickness. Should the drill penetrate into the exhaust cavity, it would damage the gear housing beyond repair.



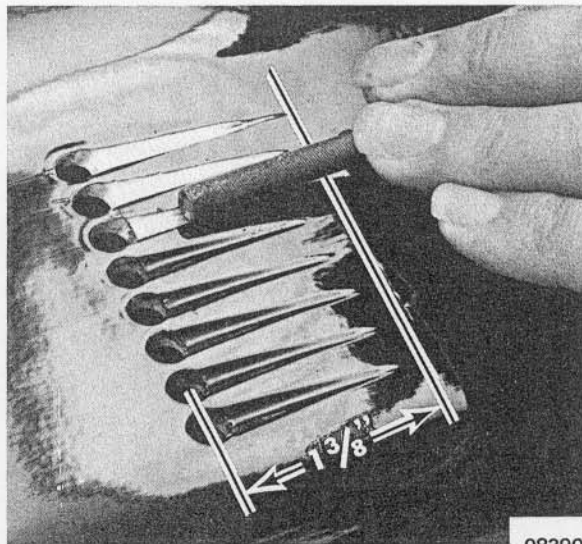
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Figure 1. Drilling into Water Pickup Hole



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Figure 2. Drilling at 45° Angle



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Figure 3. Filing Entry Slots

(CONTINUED, OVER)

2. Continue the preceding procedure for each water pickup hole on both sides of the housing.
3. Elongate each tapered entry slot to 1-3/8" (34.9mm) from the hole center with a 1/4" round bastard file. Scribe a 1-3/8" mark before filing. (Figure 3)
4. Remove all shavings and filings from the water pickup cavity after removing water pump.
5. Paint the exposed metal surfaces with Zinc Chromate Primer (C-92-31292) and Phantom Black Paint (C-92-32291). Install water pump.

B. MERCUISER 280II-TRS STAINLESS STEEL PROPELLERS

(Attach Bulletin Reference Sticker to P. 7E-7 of Your Service Manual.)

MerCruiser 280II-TRS stainless steel propellers must not be used on MCM 120-thru-233 units. There is not sufficient trim tab clearance with these propellers. Drive train and shift mechanism damage also can occur. Warranty will be void if these propellers are used on MCM 120-thru-233 drive units.

C. NEW MERCATHODE REPLACEMENT PARTS

(Attach Bulletin Reference Sticker to P. 7E-1 of Your Service Manual.)

When installing the new MerCathode reference electrode and anode, you must use the new plastic nuts, or the studs may be damaged and a water leak could result.

D. NEW TRIM LIMIT SWITCH REPLACEMENT PROCEDURE

(Attach Bulletin Reference Sticker to P. 7E-1 of Your Service Manual.)

A new procedure for replacing the MCM 120-thru-233 trim limit switches was added to the MerCruiser Service Manual, Pages 6A-53 and 6A-54. By following this procedure, the limit switch can be replaced in only 2.6 hours.