Service Letter

Cylinder Condition
Damaged Water Mist Catchers
Action code: WHEN CONVENIENT

Dear sirs

Recently, we have seen a number of failures of water mist catchers. The failures appear to have been caused by loose fixing bolts and, consequently, broken frames, loose lamellas, etc. A loose or broken water mist catcher may contribute to scuffing of the cylinder liners due to inefficient operation (water carry-over).

A broken bolt or a loose mounting may cause an upstream gap at the bottom of the water mist catcher elements. Air on the upstream side will short-circuit the element and cause water running down through the element to be sprayed downstream out through the water mist catcher.

The water spray from the broken water mist catcher may be thrown into the cylinder units, which can lead to scuffing.

We recommend that the crew members on board the vessels inspect the water mist catchers for cracks in the frame and correct mounting on a regular basis, e.g. at every port inspection.

On most engine types, inspections can be carried out from the scavenge air receiver through the non-return valves (the flaps), and the suspension bolts can be checked by removing the access covers in front of the water mist catcher. The covers are located on the side of the scavenge air cooler housing.
Inspection of the water mist catcher

Water mist catcher seen from the non-return valve in the scavenge air receiver.

Red arrows = missing bolts
Red circle = missing gap, caused by the missing bolts

Water mist catcher aft end, no clearance and no screw end visible.

Green arrow = bolt ends are visible
Green circle = gap indicates correct mounting

Water mist catcher aft end, mounted correctly
When access covers are removed, suspension bolts are visible.

Red arrow = bolt missing, broken or incorrectly mounted
Green arrow = bolt mounted correctly

Questions or comments regarding this SL should be directed to our Operation dept., LEO.

Yours faithfully
MAN Diesel A/S

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