

RBC SERVICES UPDATE

RBC Services
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CHAIN CASES & THE FINAL SEAL

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To continue offering quality replacement equipment and expert service, we offer an alternative to the original cork type chain case seals originally supplied with your RBCs.

QUESTION: I've had to replace the set of cork seals in my chain case and it's a real pain in the butt. Is there a better seal available?

ANSWER: Yes! And when properly applied, this will be the last set you'll need.

(I've had to replace quite a number of those cork seals in my time, and you're right...they are a pain in the butt.)

Many comments have been made regarding the cork chain case seals. If you have difficulties with their installation and they don't seem to work as well as you would like, there is a replacement which will help alleviate the situation.

FINAL SEAL is made of a polyurethane material and has been available since 1988. At locations where they have been sent as replacements, the operators have agreed that these are superior to the cork version.

It will take a bit more time to install initially, but once they're in, you won't need to worry about them again. These polyurethane seals are stiffer than the cork seals, which also makes it easier to apply the top half of the casing.

Here are a few thoughts on any possible damage to the chain case itself.

QUESTION: The chain rubbed a hole in the chain case. Why did it happen, and do I need to buy a new one?

ANSWER: In many cases, they can be repaired. It all depends on the extent of the damage.

The chain case is made of fiberglass. Often times, even a large hole can be repaired with the use of a fiberglass repair kit; the same kind you can pick up at an auto parts or marine goods outlet. Follow the instruction on the box and you should be back in business.

NOTE: Prior to attempting any repairs, the surface around the area being repaired, inside and out, should be cleaned of any oil residue. If this is not done, the resin will not adhere to the surface which may cause the repair to fail.

Extra care needs to be taken when applying the resin coating. Make sure there are enough coats to completely seal the patch. This will also add strength to the repair. You may need an additional amount of resin to accomplish this.

There are a few items to check which may cause damage to the chain case. Most of the damage reported has been due to the chain rubbing on the bottom of the case.

This is caused by improper chain tension. Refer to the RBC Service UPDATE Issue 3, 1989, RBC Drive: BASIC MAINTENANCE.

If the chain rubs a hole in the side of the case, this indicates improper vertical alignment of the case. On the outside at the bottom of the case toward the tank, there are two brackets. A threaded bolt should be through each of the brackets which causes the case to “stand off” the wall. If these need to be replaced, a 4” carriage bolt can be used. The vertical alignment is correct when the sprocket is centered in the case.

If the chain happens to break, the weight of the chain may break the bracket which connects the to the “T” brackets on the bearing base plate.

If the area around the bracket is damaged, this should be repaired first. The bracket can then be re-attached with a nut and bolt, making sure the length of the bolt does not interfere with any moving parts. If the bracket itself is broken, a piece of aluminum angle can be used as a replacement. Either way, make sure you also use a backing plate inside the case.

A sealant can be applied when installing the nut and bolt. Or, after they are installed, apply a sealant over them. Either way, make sure your repair is water tight.

If the chain case is damaged beyond repair, replacements are available, and the bottom half only, if that’s all you need.

If you ever have any questions about the chain casing or any other RBC equipment repair procedures, please do not hesitate to give me a call. I’m sure we can help.