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Topic

The use of anti-seize compounds on spark plug threads that have a “special shell plating” (i.e. Trivalent coating).

Issue

Applying anti-seize to the threads of spark plugs that have a special metal plating thus allowing the installer to mistakenly over-torque the spark plug in the cylinder head. Over-torque stretches the metal between the last thread and the seal between the cylinder head and spark plug, causing a much higher probability that the spark plug will either break during installation or upon removal.

Solution

For spark plugs with special metal plating; anti-seize is not recommended during installation.

Additional Information

It is recommended to use spark plugs with the special plating on all aluminum cylinder head applications to prevent damage to the cylinder head. All NGK Spark Plugs are manufactured with special shell plating on the metal body.

The use of anti-seize on spark plugs is only recommended on those brands that do not offer a special metal shell plating. Spark plugs that have a shiny silver appearance on the metal body usually indicate that the spark plug is manufactured with special metal shell plating. When installing spark plugs without special metal plating (with anti-seize), install based on vehicle manufacturer’s torque angle.

These images show spark plugs that do not have special metal shell plating where they have bonded with the aluminum in the cylinder head



When using anti-seize:

- Only on spark plugs without special metal plating
- Use manufacturer’s torque angle to avoid over-tightening

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