

# Introduction To Abradable Powder Coatings Part 2

## **Epartrade Webinar #444**

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#### Two dimensional side view of APC





Self-polishing, AAPCs are 'rough / fuzzy' as applied. They wear into the shape of the mating surface upon initial operation. Lasting geometric refinements of components improve fit, efficiency and durability. Applications: lubricated/dry, hot/cold, sacrificial/permanent.

Prior to Break-In

Magnifications ~150X

After Break-In



Initially, surface texture provides quick wear-in, followed by asymptotic decline in wear rate

- Long term ideal tribological surface has:
- Polished Plateaus (Low RpK)
- Random Crevices (High RvK)



### **Stribeck-Hutchings Fitting – Oiled Applications**



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Orange area is high stress on oil film, usually at the gage point. Pressure gradient between colors pushes oil out, sometimes allowing asperity contact between piston and bore. This creates friction and wear

#### Powder Coatings (Abradable Mechanism)



Figure 4B

Self-fitting Abradable Coating wears more at the gage point, and ultimately creates a larger footprint with ideal oil film thickness. Load is transferred from peak area to adjacent areas. Uniform oil film pressure maintains stable oil film. Minimum friction and no wear after break-in.



#### **AAPC Reduces Peak Loads and Prevents Scuffing**

- Enables stiff architecture to achieve the perfect fit
- ...with no risk of scuffing

AAPC redistributes load to adjacent areas



Scuffing Epidemic Cured

After duty cycle, highly loaded, scuff prone area is visible





























Any area that is still black after 250 hrs operation was a leak- built into in this modern, automotive oil pump.



Arrows=>Silver areas are perfectly fitting with no room for coating, so coating wears through in a controlled fashion.













Safely Reduced ISC stabilizes piston and improves ring seal and ring life









#### A New Tool In Your Toolbox

DEVELOPMENT: Witness marks, find shapes, protect components, reuse test parts

RACE: Win - better fit with less friction, smooth operation, extreme use - rpm, heat

PRODUCTION: Robust fitting, high precision because machines in place, high performance without scuffing/seizures, open machining specs,

RESTORATION: Build up worn parts, fill in scratches, works many places, post machining is friendly











@ 10.6K miles



@ 16.2K miles



@ 43.7K miles





5. Refer to Example- APC Piston Break-in Chart. After normal break-in, give the engine time to fit pistons at each power level, idle briefly, progressively raise power levels until happy at full power. Please note that dyno sweeps may not provide enough time for complete break-in. It's better to hold progressive power levels for approximately 5 seconds and let off for a minute before increasing to the next power level. The idea is to pinch the coating for a short time and then let the oil get back in. Each power cycle laps each piston closer to its perfect geometry!



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#### **AAPC Piston In A Chain Saw Engine - Vibration**



#### **Coating reduces vibration - Think Ring Seal**



#### **Turbo Field Data: Borg Warner Special 88mm Turbo**



Achieved boost @ 2K-5K lower shaft speed (red shifted left)

Advantage compounds through each gear

Data Courtesy of Kevin Kwiatkowski, Kiggly Racing



#### Holset HD Diesel Turbocharger

Rotor cuts perfect seal shape during operation

- Improves fuel economy
- Economical retrofit

Photos after 150K miles







#### **Throttle Response - Abradable Seal Photos**





- 150,000 miles on coating
- Driver perceived better throttle response
- Driver reported significant mpg savings on known route & load over 1.5 years
- All tips evenly polished
- Rotor 'bedded' into thick coating
- Convenient retrofit improvement



#### Value Fundamentals of AAPC - "A Perfect Fit Every Time"

- Improves efficiency
- Lifelong geometric improvement to components (typical thickness 20µ to 200+µ)
  - Build devices tight causing light interference fit
  - Final geometry laps in during initial operation
- Eases challenges tolerancing, stack-up, thermal expansion
- Reduces clearances
- Cuts NOISE



- Reduces friction stabilizes oil film
  - Eliminates scuffing
  - Economical, scalable powder coating process
  - Environmentally friendly





# Thank you!

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