



Starters with oil contamination

Pattern of damage

A starter contaminated through oil can be recognized by oil deposits in the bearing bell and in the starter. In extreme cases, contamination can be detected immediately due to an oil film or drops of oil on the starter. The customer often notices this fault due to poor performance of the starter.

Causes

In most cases, oil contamination is caused by leaks on the engine. In particular, a leaky crankshaft scrapper shaft seal should be considered as a possible main cause. The oil escaping is flung into the starter by the flywheel.

Effects

Oil penetrating the starter results in the carbon brushes softening and in increased abrasion connected with this. Together with the oil, the carbon abrasion forms a conductive compound which leads to short-circuits and contact problems. In most cases, this results in total failure.

