merCruiser STERN DRIVES & INBOARDS

service bulletin

TO: SERVICE MANAGER ☐ TECHNICIANS ☐
PARTS MANAGER ☐

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No. 97-19

Extended Life Coolant (Antifreeze) In Gasoline Engines

Models

1997 MIE 350 cid Inboard Models: S/N 0K260831 and above.
1997 MIE 454 cid Inboard Models: S/N 0K261095 and above.
1997 MIE 502 cid Inboard Models: S/N 0K261106 and above.
1998 MCM Sterndrive Models: S/N 0L000001 and above.
1998 MIE All Inboard Models: S/N 0L002003 and above.

NOTE: *The starting serial numbers listed above only apply to engines with a Closed Cooling Systems installed by MerCruiser at Stillwater, OK.*

Extended Life Coolant (Antifreeze)

When a Closed Cooling System is installed at MerCruiser, an Extended Life antifreeze is used to fill the system. This antifreeze is made by Texaco and called Havoline Extended Life 5/100 Dex Cool. It is orange in color but it may look light brown to some people. This coolant is ethylene glycol based.

GM has used this coolant in their vehicles for over a year. MerCruiser has tested it in several inboard engines that were running on endurance. One of these engines ran nearly 1100 hours with no cooling problems.

Currently, there are 2 brands on the market. Both have orange caps and '5/100' on the container. The 5/100 means 5 years/100,000 miles. Prestone's Extended Life antifreeze says it is 'compatible with Dex Cool' on the label. Use only extended life coolant that states that it is 'compatible with Dex Cool'. It can be bought at most automotive stores and other locations where antifreeze is sold.

Havoline (Texaco)	Prestone
Extended Life 5/100	Extended Life 5/100
Dex Cool	'Compatible with Dex Cool'

▲ MerCruiser Coolant Change Intervals

Extended Life Coolant: Once every 5 years or 1000 hours, whichever comes first.

Regular Coolant: Once every 2 years or 400 hours, whichever comes first.

1. If regular antifreeze is added to the Extended Life coolant, the coolant should be changed once every 2 years because of the regular coolant's additive package.
2. If Extended Life antifreeze is added to regular antifreeze coolant, the coolant should be changed once every 2 years because of the regular coolant's additive package.

▲ Gasoline Engines With Regular Antifreeze Coolant

If the regular antifreeze coolant is drained completely and the cooling system is refilled with the Extended Life coolant, the coolant then can be changed at the Extended Life Coolant intervals.

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