



Technical Bulletin / Safety Alert

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Rev: 0

(This document supersedes all previous versions of the above TBSA)

Subject: MDR090376DES Exhaust System - Incident Notification

Date: 16th January 2013

Applicable to: VLI Diesel Pty Ltd Diesel Engine Systems covered under design registration no. MDR 090376 DES (Driftrunner & Brumby)

Note: Minimum PPE required to carry out any inspections contained in this TBSA shall be protective clothing & footwear, safety glasses, hearing protection & any site specific requirements. A JSA or equivalent should be carried out prior to performing these tasks.

Occurance:

VLI Diesel Division (VLIDD) advises the recent occurrence of an incident in relation to a VLI Driftrunner Vehicle Diesel Engine System covered under design registration no. MDR090376DES.

The incident occurred at a NSW Coal Mine, during a weekly service inspection, when the end user detected a leaking joint between the water based exhaust conditioner and the exhaust adaptor extension.

The exhaust conditioner and adapter extension were removed from service and returned to VLI for investigation.

Investigation & Cause:

Examination of the exhaust conditioner and exhaust adapter extension returned to VLI identified that machining to the mounting flange on the exhaust conditioner tank had reduced the depth of one of the threaded bolt holes to the minimum nominated tolerance; subsequently the bolt appeared to have become thread bound at this location, resulting in the reported leaking joint. It was considered likely that the joint integrity was intact on initial installation, and that subsequent in-service thermal cycling had resulted in the failure of the joint integrity.

Upon review of the exhaust conditioner tank to exhaust adapter extension assembly design and the allowable minimum tolerances of the component flanges, it was identified that there is potential for the thread engagement of the nominated bolts to render them thread bound. To address this potential, it is the intention of VLIDD to revise the requirements for the threaded fasteners used between the exhaust adapter extension and the exhaust conditioner tank, such that the hex head bolts currently used at this location be replaced with studs.

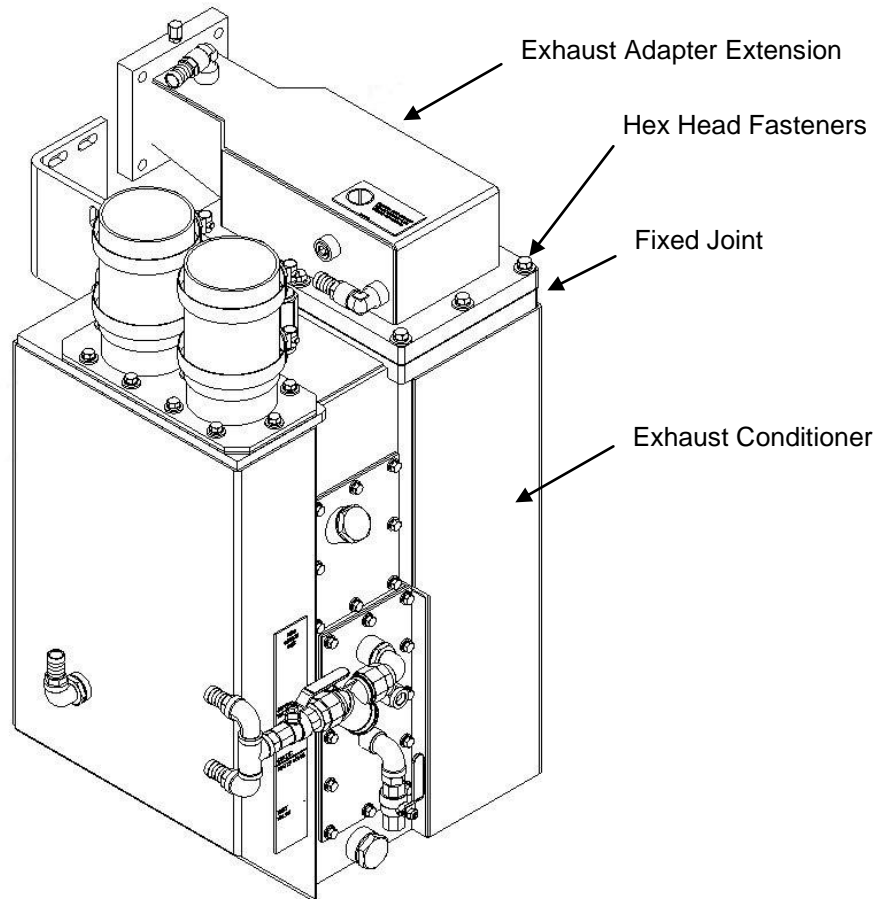


Figure 1: MDR090376DES Exhaust Conditioner Assembly

Recommendations:

VLI Diesel Division (VLIDD) recommends that end users and equipment owners of applicable Driftrunner vehicles continue to inspect and maintain the diesel engine system in accordance with the recommendations of the original equipment manufacturer.

Future Action:

VLIDD are in the process of preparing an application for an alteration to the registered design, to provide for replacement of the hex head bolts with studs at the joint between the exhaust adapter extension and the exhaust conditioner tank. On completion of this process an updated TBSA will be released to industry.

Please ensure this document is circulated to all relevant personnel within your organisation.

Should you have any further queries please contact your VLI Diesel Representative.

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