



Dear Sir or Madam

doy b We have recently received information about a potentially dangerous situation from the where of an MAN B&W engine where the engine ware of a crack in the piston crown at the bolted crew beca connection is important to note that the risk of experiencing such the piston crown is very low.

In a situation where the contact face on the piston crown towards the piston rod breaks off, the piston rod will either fall sideways or drop, depending on the circumstances. This poses a serious potential risk to people and property, and may even result in bodily injuries and/or fatal casualties.

Additionally, in the event that such cracks develop, they can lead to an oil spill inside the engine. Such oil spills can be detected at the scavenge drain. If undetected for a long time, oil spills might, in rare cases, lead to substantial engine damage that potentially could result in a complete breakdown.

Questions regarding this Service Letter should be directed to our Operation department at: Operation2S@man-es.com

Yours faithfully

Susanne Kindt Vice president, Two-stroke Engineering

Per Pallisgaard Head of Product Safety DK

#### Action code: AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY

Updated procedure due to potential crack in piston crown Inner circular contact flange

SL2023-743/PRP August 2023

#### Concerns

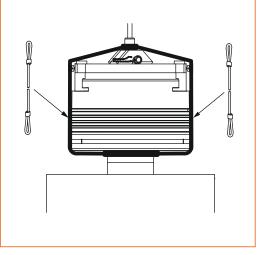
Owners and operators of MAN B&W two-stroke marine combustion engines.

#### Summary

To prevent personal injury and damage to the engine during piston overhaul, we have introduced an updated work procedure included in this Service Letter.

#### Enclosure

Work card 2265-0401-0044 - Piston 



Head office (& po. address) **MAN Energy Solutions** Teglholmsgade 41 2450 Copenhagen SV Denmark Phone: +45 33 85 11 00 +45 33 85 10 30 Fax: info-cph@man-es.com www.man-es.com

PrimeServ Teglholmsgade 41 2450 Copenhagen SV Denmark Phone: +45 33 85 11 00 Fax: +45 33 85 10 49 PrimeServ-cph@man-es.com Production Teglholmsgade 35 2450 Copenhagen SV Denmark Phone: +45 33 85 11 00 Fax: +45 33 85 10 17 manufacturing-dk@man-es.com Forwarding & Receiving Teglholmsgade 35 2450 Copenhagen SV Denmark Phone: +45 33 85 11 00 Fax: +45 33 85 10 16 shipping-cph@man-es.com

#### MAN Energy Solutions

Branch of MAN Energy Solutions SE. Germany CVR No.: 31611792 Head office: Teglholmsgade 41 2450 Copenhagen SV, Denmark German Reg.No.: HRB 22056 Amtsgericht Augsburg



When dismantling the piston, we recommend checking for cracks in the bolted connection in the inner circular contact surface. If you find a crack, replace the piston crown.



evealing cracks in piston crown (yellow Fig. 1: Dye arrows the crack line)

M N Energy Solutions has updated the work card for piston overhaul. The update introduces two textile rope slings to be used during lifting operations. In the unlikely event that a breakage should occur, the slings will prevent the piston rod from dropping in an uncontrolled manner.

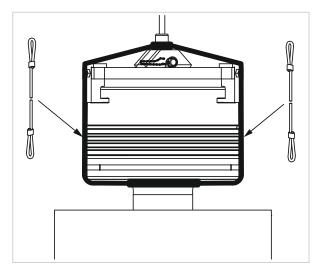
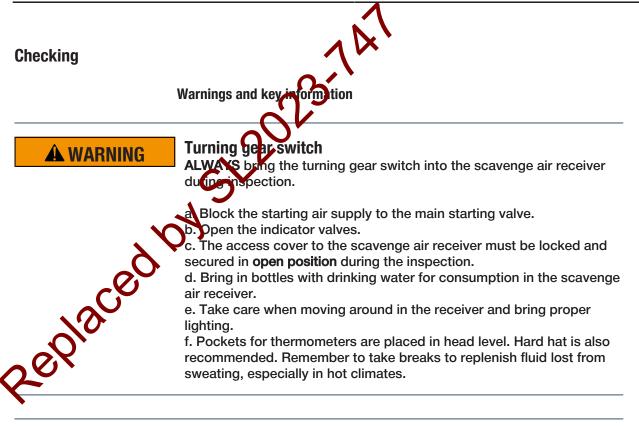


Fig. 2: Use textile rope slings for lifting operations

It is important that this information is communicated to the relevant technical personnel. You must make sure that any inspection, maintenance, and repair is carried out by trained staff, who are familiar with the related operating and maintenance instructions, and work cards.

Please insert this Service Letter and work card No. 2265-0401-0044 in the instruction book.

Checkin





#### Working inside crankcase

Risk of serious injury or death due to slips, falls and low overhead clearances.

- Observe safety precautions when working in the crankcase. *See description [0545-0100].*
- Use platform boards while working inside the crankcase. *See work card* [7665-0601].

#### NOTICE

#### Inspection of scavenge port.

For detailed information on scavenge port inspection, see *description* [2245-0100].



Checking

1. Scavenge port inspection T

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2. Ring inspection

on The scavenge port inspection is carried out from the scavenge air receiver.

Before entating the receiver, open the access over and secure it in open position. An additional view of the rings is possible through the cleaning cover on the manouvering side.

ages from the piston or cylinder cover, keep the cooling water and cooling oil circulating during the scavenge port inspection.

Turn the engine at least ½ a revolution, and begin with a unit arriving downwards, just above the scavenge air ports. Inspect the piston rod and the lower part of the cylinder wall.

While the piston is passing downwards, inspect the piston skirt, all the piston rings, the ring lands, and the piston top.

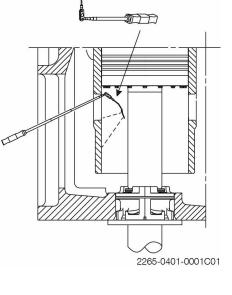
Inspect the rings, one at a time, and note down the results for later references.

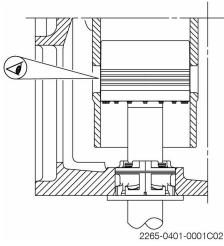
The piston may have a ring pack consisting of:

- All Cermet-coated rings.

All non-Cermet-coated rings.A mix of Cermet-coated and non-Cermet-coated rings.

In addition to the above, please note that most new piston rings (both Cermet-coated and non-Cermet-coated) will be Alu-coated (golden finish) for running-in purposes. Average Alucoat lifetime is 1000–1500 running hours.





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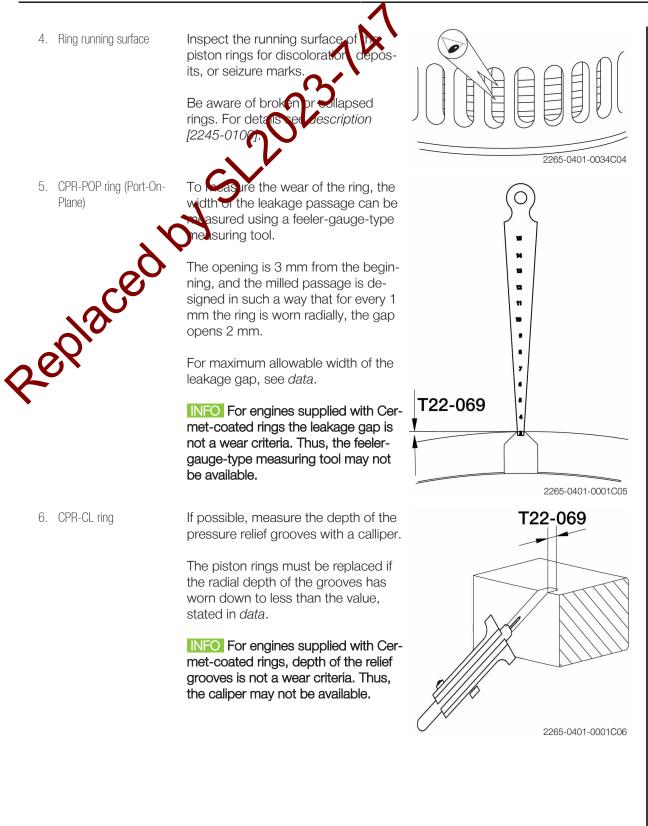
3. Piston ring wear criteria For non-Cermet-coated rings the wear criteria is the width of POP-opening on the underside of the piston ring, or the depth of the CL-groove.

For Cermet-coated piston ring the wear criteria is the thickness of the Cermet coating layer.

See description [2245-0100].



### 2265-0401-0044



Work Card



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7. Cermet-coated ring

Use the thickness gauge it the thickness of the Cermet coating on the piston ring running surface.

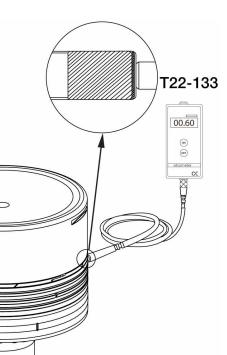
g probe against Press the mea the cent piston ring running surfa

ng a scavenge port inspecisert the measuring probe ough the most easily accessible scavenge port.

If possible take measurements on the upper half of the piston ring as wear here will often (especially for the uppermost piston ring) be higher than at the lower half of the ring.

For details on how to use the thickness gauge see separate instructions from thickness gauge manufacturer.

It is recommended to take at least 3 measurements in each measuring position to reduce the risk of measuring errors. In the Cylinder Condition Report note down the thickness measured for each ring for calculation of Cermet coating wear rate.



2265-0401-0033C03

8. Cermet wear criteria If the Cermet coating thickness is above 0.10 mm, the ring is in "good condition with no remarks".

> If the Cermet coating is worn down to 0.10 mm or less, measurements in more positions (as many as possible, minimum 3 positions through scavenge ports on the exhaust side and 3 positions through scavenge ports on the manouvering side) must be carried out for a full evaluation of the piston ring condition.

If the Cermet coating thickness in any location on the piston ring is worn down to 0.05 mm or less, replacement of the piston ring should be done at the first convenient opportunity, taking into consideration previous Cermet coating wear rate calculations.

A WARNING The piston ring must always be replaced before the Cermet coating is fully worn away in any location.



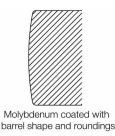
#### 2265-0401-0044

9. Piston Skirt

The Piston skirt may be either weive denum coated and barrel shaped, or non-coated with 1 or 2 bronze bands.

See the sketch showing the running surface of the skirts (details exaggerated for visibility).

For both types of piston skirts, the skirt reast always be replaced if damaced by for example, Mo-coating peeling off or by active seizures.





Checking

Non-coated with chamfers and bronze band(s) 2265-0401-0034C08

10. Malvadorum coated barrel thane skirt cylind will be

coated barrel At both the top and bottom of the skirt running surface a 2–3 mm rounding will be present. Between the roundings, a barrel shape (with cylinder diameter dependent radius) will be present. The roundings and barrel shape surface are covered by a wear layer of molybdenum.

> **NOTICE** If the Mo-coating is worn through to the base material, the cast iron will become visible by a locally more shiny appearance and the coating thickness measurement will thus locally result in "0" µm of remaining Mo coating.

The level of wear on the barrel shape geometry can be seen by the height of the skirt center contact zone. If the contact has increased to the full height of the skirt, the barrel shape is worn out.



Light barrel shape skirt wear



Moderate barrel shape skirt wear

11. Piston skirt replacement cri- If either the skirt barrel shape is worn away **or** the Mo-coating is worn through to the cast iron base material in any position, the skirt should be replaced when convenient.

If both the barrel shape is worn away **and** the Mo-coating is worn through in any position, the skirt must be replaced as soon as possible.



# MAN Energy Solutions

Checking

12. Non-coated bronze band skirt

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In the middle of the skirt traning surface 1 or 2 bronze bands are mounted. At the top and bottom of the skirt running surface a chamfer of 7-25 mm height is out (depending on engine bore size).

The following criteria apply regarding replacement of the skirt:

- Wear of the bronze band(s) is natural and does not require replacement.

- When the chamfer is worn flush with the skirt running surface in any position, that is the chamfer has locally disappeared, the skirt is worn out and must be replaced as soon as possible.



As new, perfect condition



Bronze bands worn flush, but chamfers in fine condition.

2265-0401-0034C12

**PISTON** Work Card



### 2265-0401-0044

Checking

13. Piston support

Remove the piston from the cylinder and place it on the piston support, see *dismantling procedure*.

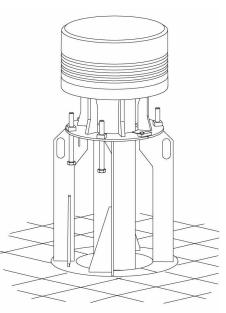
For overhauling of piston, see *description* [2244-0104]

**NOTICE** It is recommended to replace an the piston rings whenever a pistor is removed from the engine.

f however, the piston has been in service only for a short period of time (<200 hours) the piston rings may be re-used.

Before the removal of ring(s) from the piston, check the minimum free spread of the piston ring(s).

If it is below the mentioned limit, then the piston ring(s) must be replaced. See data.

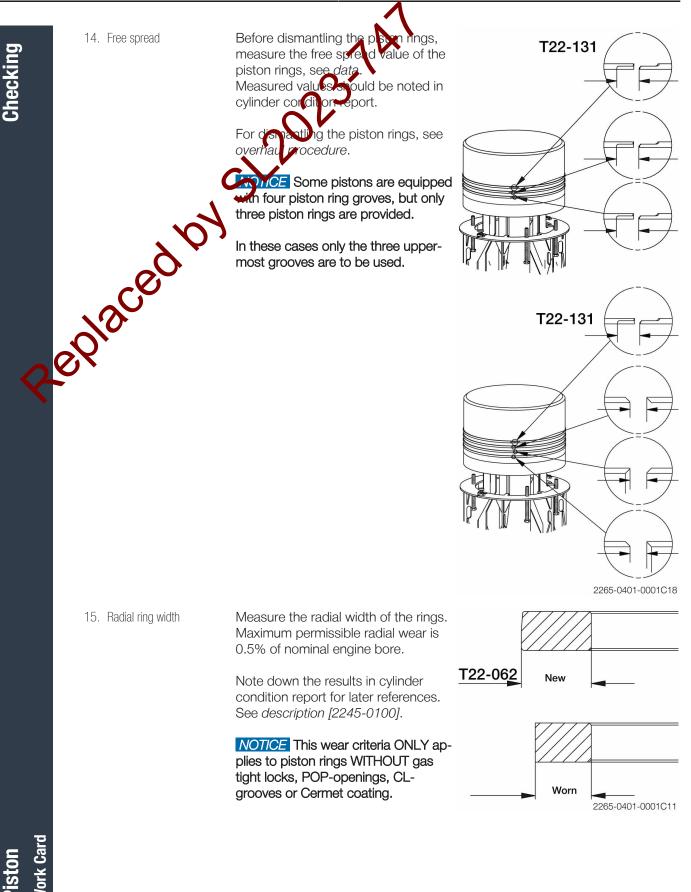


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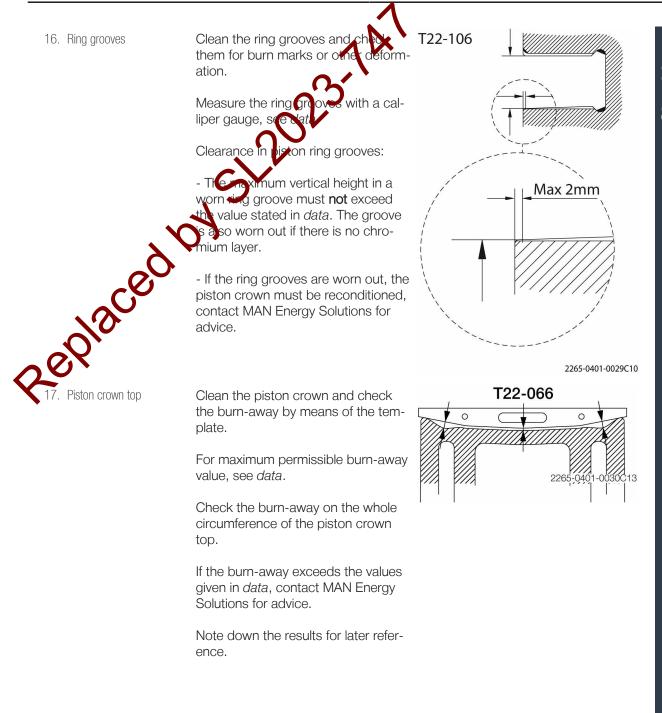
Replaced



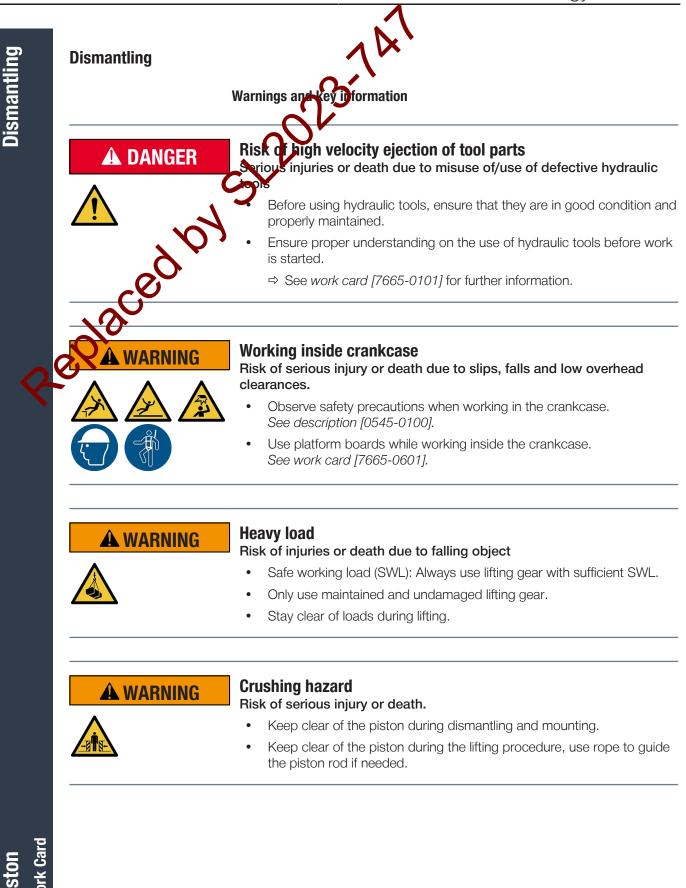


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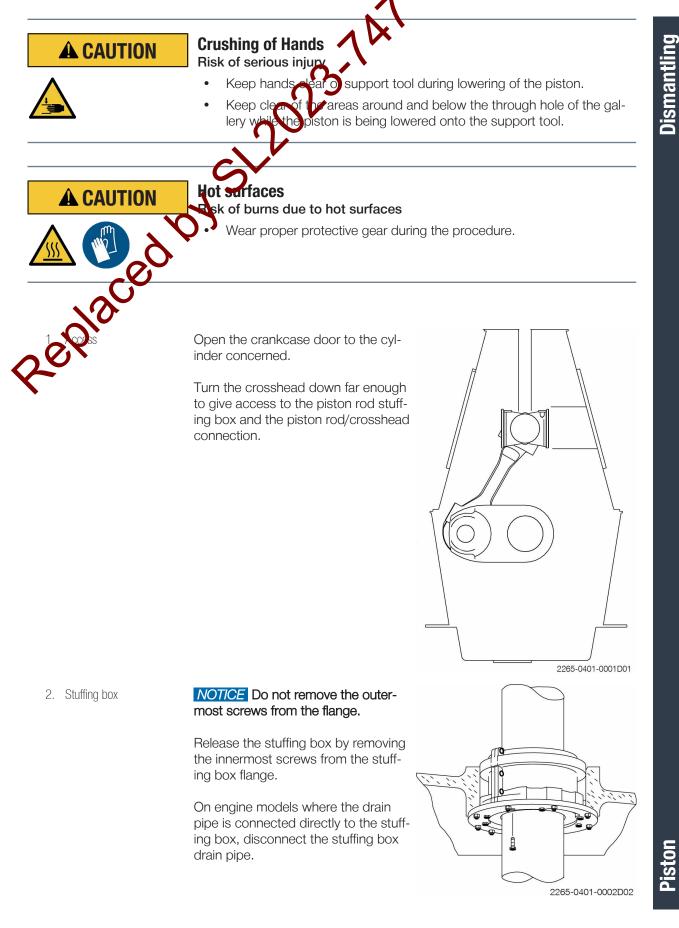
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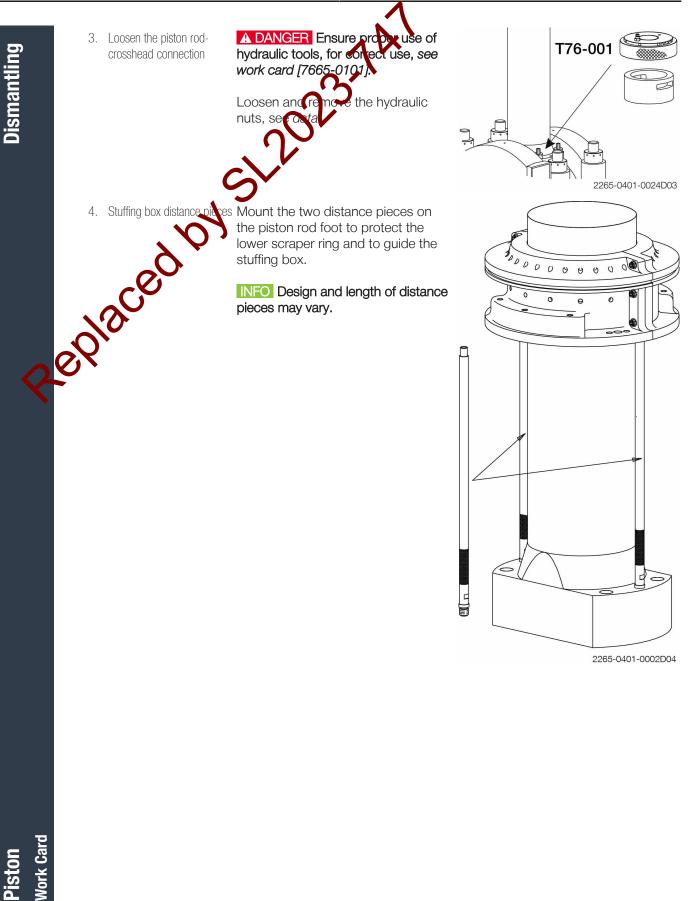




Work Card



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#### 2265-0401-0044

5. Cylinder cover

Remove the cylinder cover card [2265-0301].

Make a scratch mark in the and piston cleaning ring on sure correct repiston cleanmounting. Remove ing ring.

Carefully ve any wear ridges at ren the cylinder liner, see work the tor card [2265-0601].

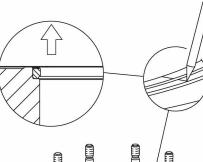
cessary, remove the aftmost ac-C PISSon lifting tool cess platform for the unit concerned. On some engine installations, this will be necessary to give room for the piston rod foot.

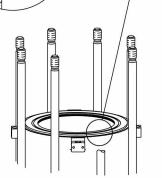
Turn the piston to TDC. The top of the piston is now free of the cylinder liner.

NOTICE Make sure to mount the lifting tool correctly, so that the claws of the lifting tool enter the lifting grooves of the piston crown. Also mount the engine room crane hook correctly onto the lifting tool dowel pin.

Clean the lifting groove of the piston crown and mount the lifting tool, see data.

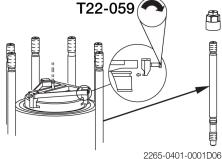
If the engine isn't equipped with long distance pieces, remove one or two cylinder cover studs, using a stud setter.





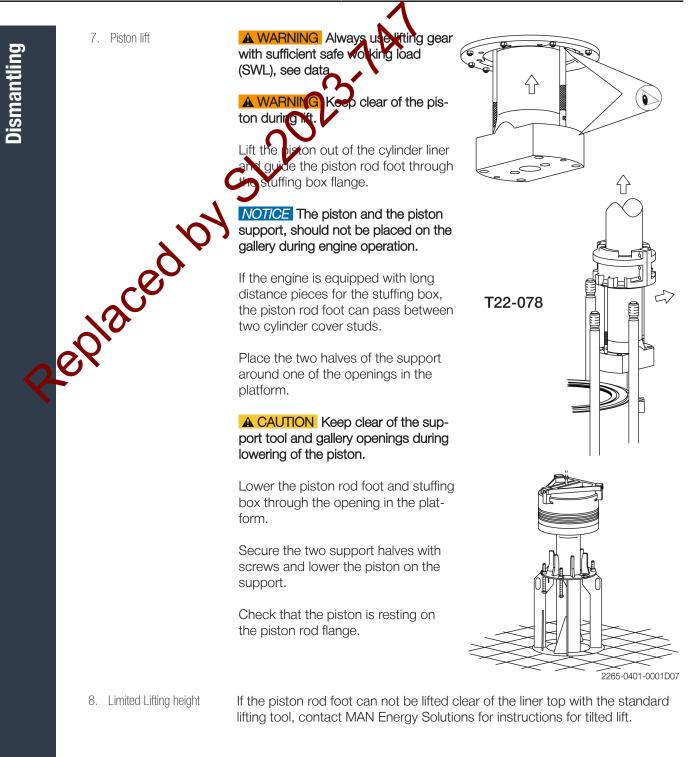
2265-0401-0007D05

Dismantling





13 (30)



Piston

### 2265-0401-0044

9. Protect the crosshead

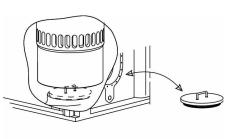
Replaced

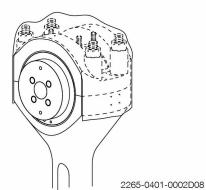
Place a cover over the opening by the piston rod stuffing box in the bottom of the cylinder unit.

Turn the crossheld down far enough to permit mounting of the protective rubber cover on the crosshead bearing cap. The protective rubber cover is found on the 'Connecting rod and Crosshend' tool panel, see *plate* [1470-0300].

The covers must remain in place to protect the crosshead bearing journal from impurities until the piston is remounted.

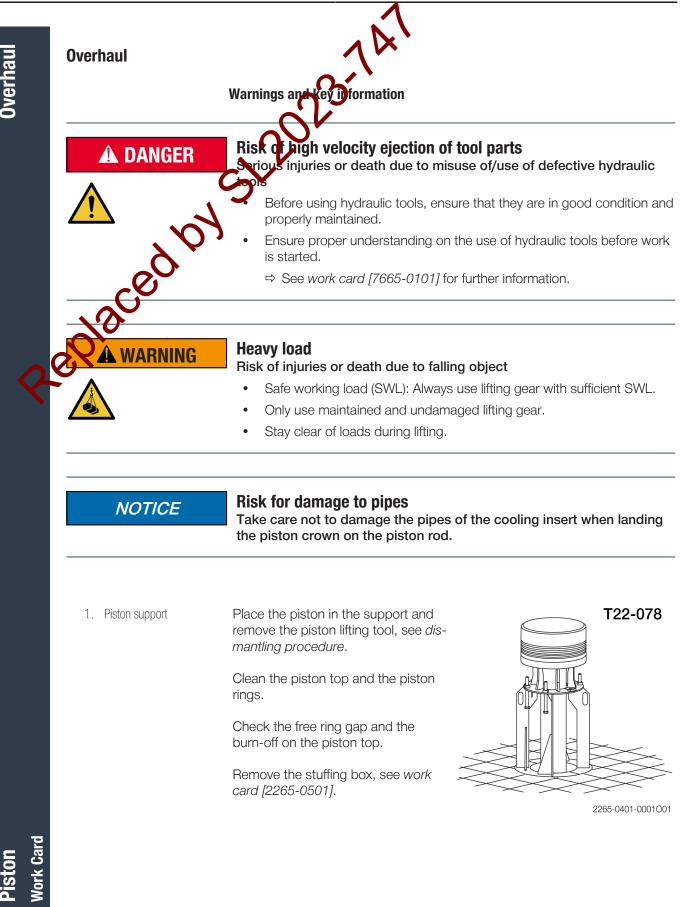
Clean, measure, and recondition the cylinder liner, see *work card* [2265-0601].





Dismantling







### 2265-0401-0044

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- Remove the piston rings by 2. Piston ring dismantling the ring expanders. If the er equipped with two ring expanders, hort ring and four piston rings the expander is for the ppermost (CPR) ring. NOTICE Sor peristons are equipped with four piston ring groves, but only three piston rings are provided. In these cases only the three uppermost proves are to be used. Replaced First remove the uppermost ring, then ring number two, three, and four if installed. Clean and inspect the rings and the ring grooves, see 'Checking' procedure.
  - 3. Piston crown dismantling

# **A WARNING** Always use lifting gear with sufficient SWL, see data.

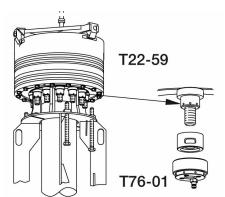
Mount the piston lifting tool on to the piston, see *data*.

▲ DANGER Ensure proper use of hydraulic tools, for correct use, see work card [7665-0101].

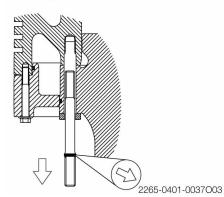
Loosen and remove the hydraulic nuts between the rod and the piston crown, see *data*.

Lift the piston crown and skirt clear of the piston rod.

Dismount the piston crown studs & discard the O-rings.

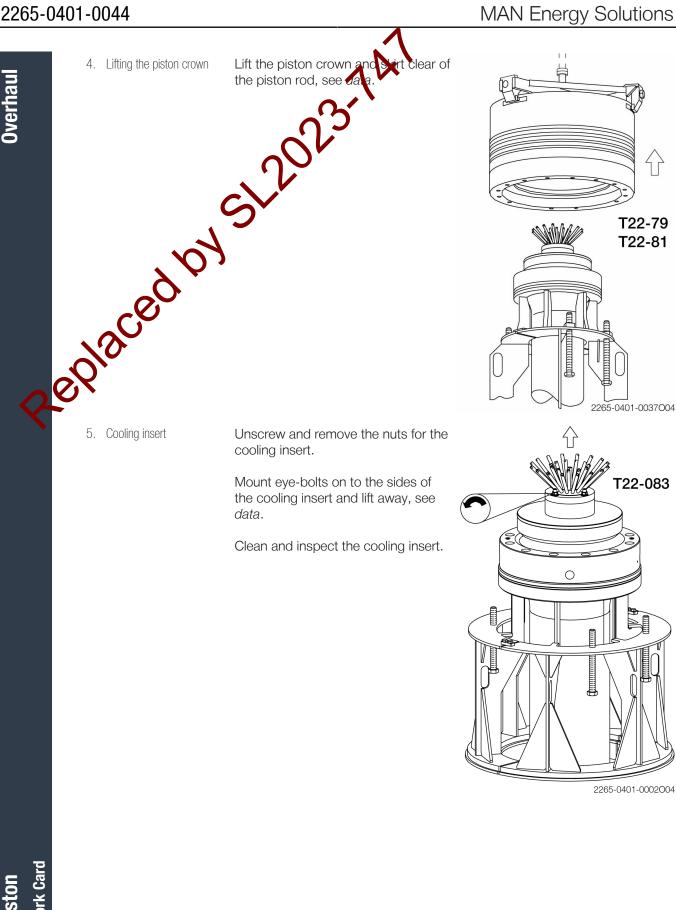


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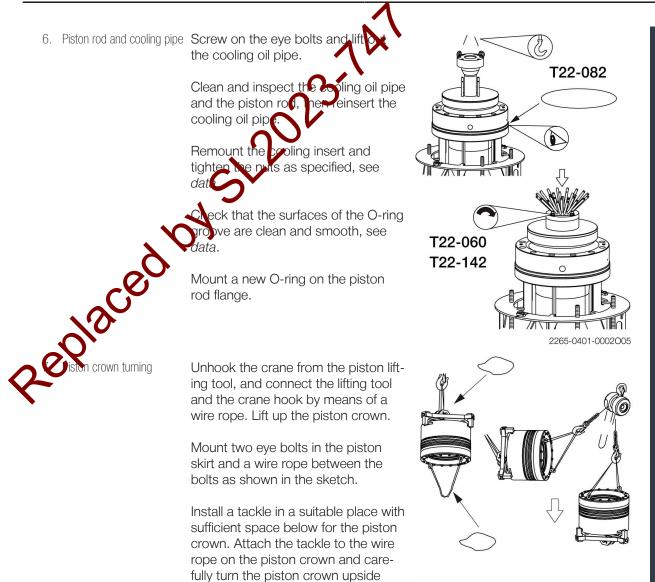
Inuk Card







Overhau



down. Use both cranes if the engine room is equipped with two cranes.

Land the piston lifting tool and the piston crown on a sufficient support of wood pieces. Loosen the piston lifting tool and lift the piston crown

clear of the tool.

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Overhaul

8. Piston crown cleaning

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Place the piston crown wite skirt on a wooden support as shown.

Remove the looking wire and the screws in the skirt. If necessary, use two dismantline screws to pull the skirt on of the piston crown. Mount two eye bolts in the skirt. Lift the skirt and land it on a couple of planks.

Discard the sealing ring on the piston skirt.

Thoroughly clean and inspect all parts of the crown and skirt. If coke deposits are found in the cooling spaces of the piston crown, they should be washed clean with Carbon Remover or a similar cleaning fluid. When all coke deposits have been dissolved, clean and inspect the piston crown again.

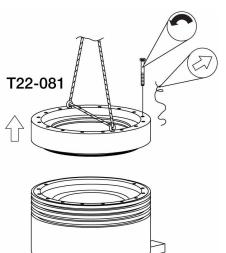
**NOTICE** Coke deposits reduce heat transfer from the piston crown to the cooling oil. The deposits must be removed as a routine procedure when a piston is overhauled.

9. Piston crown assembly Mount a new O-ring on the piston skirt. Check that the surfaces of the O-ring groove are clean and smooth. Coat the ring with lubricating oil before mounting.

Mount the piston skirt on the piston crown.

Tighten the screws to specified torque, see *data*.

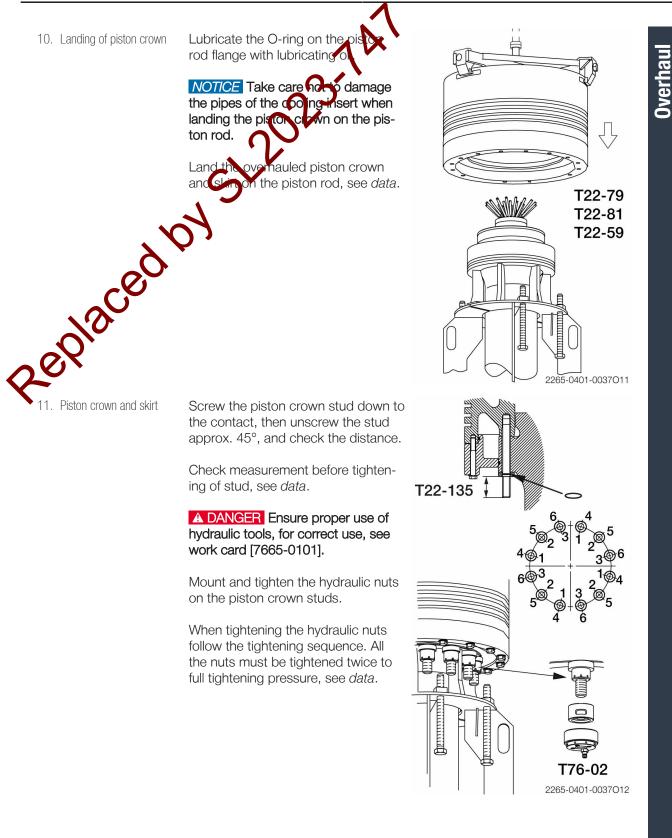
Lock the screws with locking wire, see *work card* [7665-0501].





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## MAN Energy Solutions

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12. Sealing ring test

Mount the pressure-testing tool on the piston rod foot.

**NOTICE** If there is insufficient clear-ance or accessibility to mount the pressure testing tool, the piston should be turned before carrying out the sealing ring test. See "Piston tunning" in work card [2265-0401].

Connect compressed air to the testing tool and fill the piston with compressed air to 4-5 bar.

Close the valve on the testing tool and remove the air connection.

The pressure must be maintained for a minimum of 30 minutes.

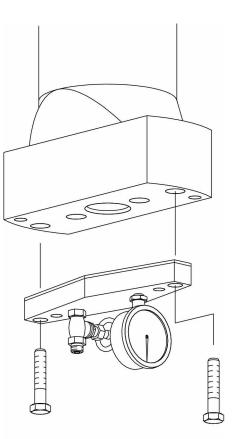
13. Leak test

Spray a little soap water on to the surface joints between piston rod/ crown/skirt and around the bolt heads to detect leaks.

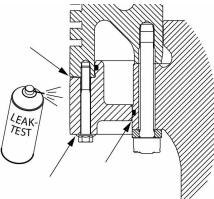
Dry off all soap water.

**A CAUTION** Large volume of compressed air - When releasing air pressure from the piston rod, open the valve on the testing tool carefully.

Release the pressure from the piston rod.



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2265-0401-0001013





### 2265-0401-0044

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14. Piston completion

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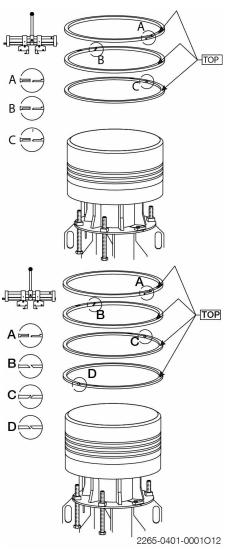
When mounting the piston rings use the ring expanders to prevent unintended deformation of the rings.

**NOTICE** Some distons are equipped with four piston hag proves, but only three piston hag provided. In these cases only the three uppermost grooves are to be used.

Mount the new piston rings. If equipped with CPR-CL alternately ight-hand and left-hand cuts, but always with the ring gaps staggered 180° and with the TOP mark upwards.

Do not expand the rings more than necessary. The uppermost ring (CPR-POP) must be mounted with the short ring expander, if the engine is equipped with four piston rings.

Mount the piston rod stuffing box, see *work card* [2265-0501].



Work Car



Turning

1. Piston turning

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If necessary to up the piston and rod upside down for overhaul or transportation, do as opposite

Lift the pictor with the normal lifting tool.

Lower the piston rod foot until it is close to the platform.

Land the foot on a wooden block.

Lower the piston crown to the platform and land it on a wooden block in such a way that it is possible to remove the lifting tool.

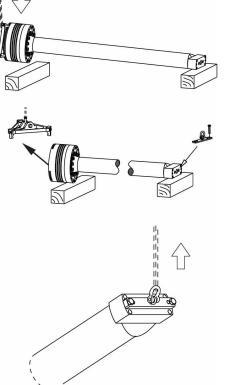
Attach the lifting bracket to the bottom of the piston rod foot.

Hook the crane on to the lifting bracket.

Lift the piston rod foot clear of the wooden block.

Keep lifting until the piston rod is in a vertical position.

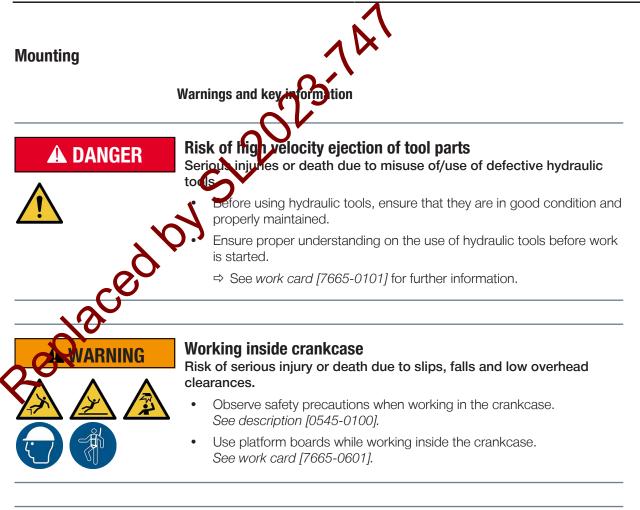
**NOTICE** During the lift, follow with the crane to keep the crane positioned vertically above the lifting point. The stuffing box must be removed. See work card [2265-0501].



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Piston



#### **Heavy load**

#### Risk of injuries or death due to falling object

- Safe working load (SWL): Always use lifting gear with sufficient SWL.
- Only use maintained and undamaged lifting gear.
- Stay clear of loads during lifting.

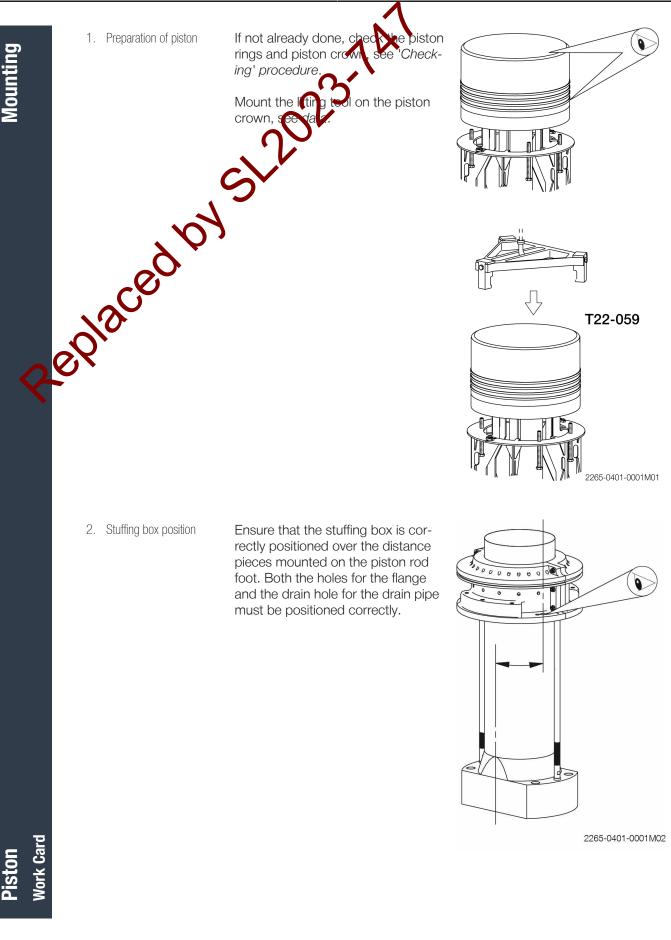
**A** WARNING

#### **Crushing hazard**

#### Risk of serious injury or death.

- Keep clear of the piston during dismantling and mounting.
- Keep clear of the piston during the lifting procedure, use rope to guide the piston rod if needed.

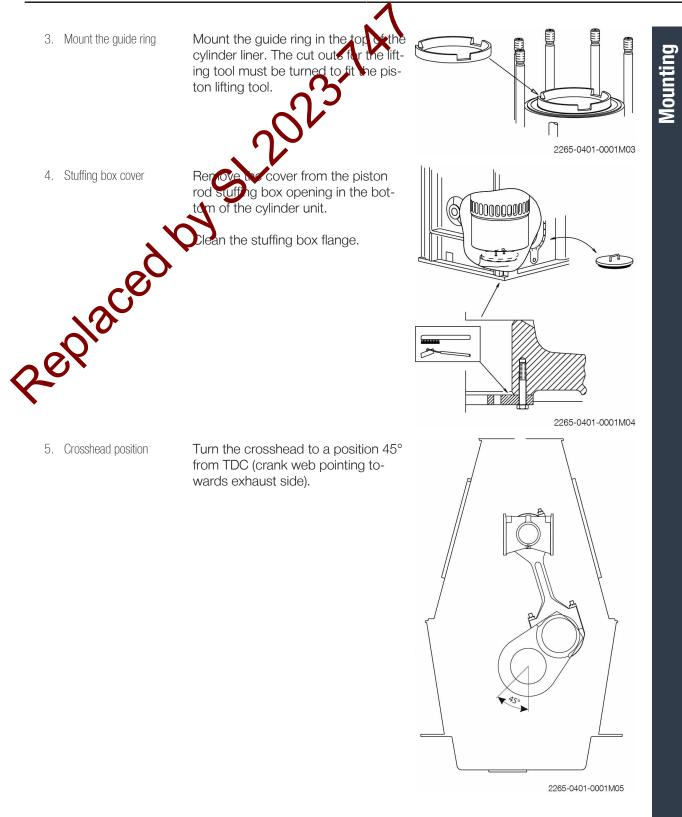




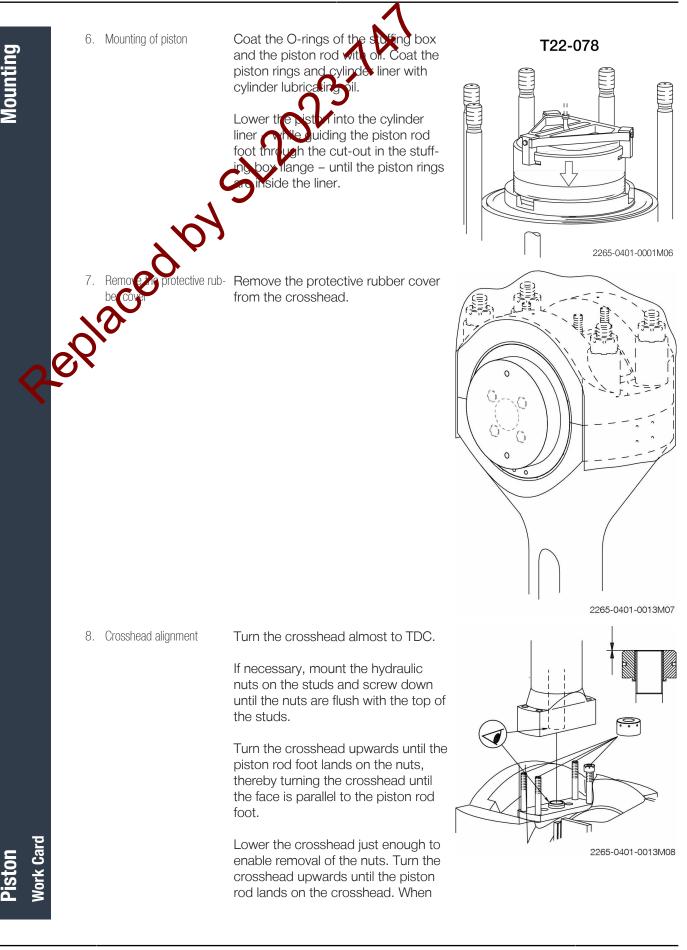


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#### 2265-0401-0044







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9. Stuffing box

Replaced

mounting the piston on the crosshead, make sure that rod foot does not damage th threads of the studs. Ensure that the guide ring in the crosshead fits correctly in the center e of the piston rod.

fting tool and remove Unscrew ol and the guide ring for the piston iqs.

Turn down and land the stuffing box on the stuffing box flange. Check that the holes in the stuffing box and stuffing box flange are correctly centred.

Tighten the piston rod stuffing box by means of the screws through the inner holes in the stuffing box flange. For data and more information, see work card [2265-0501].

On engine models where the drain pipe is connected directly to the stuffing box, mount the stuffing box drain pipe.

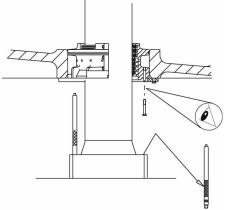
Remove the distance pieces from the piston rod foot.

10. Tightening of the piston rod-crosshead connection

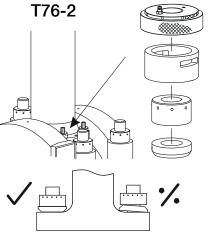
A DANGER Ensure proper use of hydraulic tools, for correct use, see work card [7665-0101].

A CAUTION Risk of broken studs -Note that washers must be mounted between the nuts and the piston rod foot. The washers are designed with a chamfer on one side. Make sure to mount the washers with the chamfer on the lower side (facing towards the piston rod foot).

Mount and tighten the piston rod nuts with the hydraulic jacks, see data.



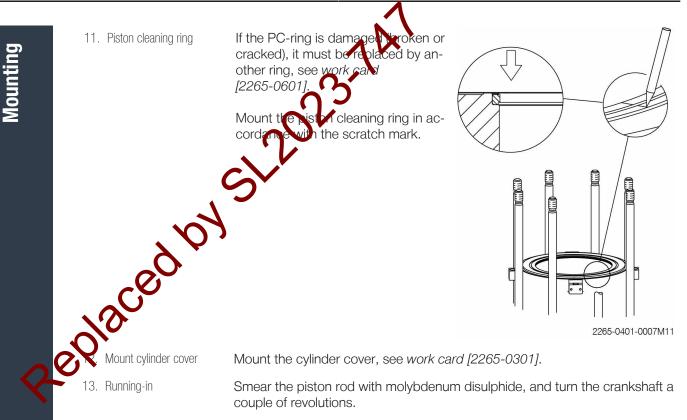
2265-0401-0001M09



2265-0401-0024M10



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At the first opportunity, start the engine and keep it running for about 15 minutes at a speed corresponding to "Dead Slow" Ahead.

Then stop the engine and inspect the piston rod and stuffing box.

