

Bighorn Technical Service Bulletin

25-103

Issue: A small number of 550 model carts manufactured during 2023, 2024 and early 2025 production run may experience engine failures due to the lack of proper lubrication internal to the engine. Symptoms of potential failure are poor performance, acceleration, reduced top speed, excessive oil consumption, and exhaust smoking. The issue can be diagnosed by performing an engine compression test and a cylinder leak down test.

Background: The issue is caused by low oil pressure, circulation and contaminants in the engine oil. Symptoms may develop after only a few miles of use and continue to create wear on internal engine components. This can lead to damage to the valve train, including stuck valves, and excessive wear of the rocker arms and camshaft, damage to the piston, rings cylinder, and damaged bearings. Early detection and preventive maintenance are recommended to address potential concerns before they develop into more serious issues.

Affected Vehicles: Vehicles affected include date codes: **P** (2023 models), **R** (2024 models), and **S** (2025 models) with VINs **less than 0341**.

Note: All carts shipped from Bighorn to dealers after 7-1-25 incorporate updated engine components and assembly processes that address and eliminate this issue.

Resolution: To resolve this problem, we recommend the following actions.

1. **For all units received by dealers prior to 7-1-25 and in your inventory**, perform an engine oil change using **10W30 full synthetic oil**, and replacing the oil drain plug with a new one that **contains a magnetic insert**. (Supplied)
2. **For carts in use by your customers**, when they are brought in for regular service and/or an oil change, during the service process, perform an **engine compression test** and **cylinder leakage test**. Acceptable results from the test should be as follows: Engine compression **110 – 160 psi**. Cylinder leakage **< 10%**.
3. Test results falling outside these ranges will require additional teardown inspection and repairs.
4. Diagnostic time: **1.5 hours**
5. Repair time: **TBD on a case by case basis**.

For assistance with this issue contact Bighorn
Powersports

770-682-3035

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Enter ext 314 for technical support.