Service Letter

Lubricating Oil Filter with Notch Wire Element
Action Code: At First Opportunity

Dear Sirs,

During the last few months, MAN Diesel in Copenhagen has received reports of several cases where serious damage to crankshaft bearings and journals has been caused by broken and wrapped-off wire from lubricating oil filters of the Notch Wire Element type.

A lubricating oil filter of the Notch Wire Element type is characterised by the filter element, which has a specially treated, thin stainless steel wire wrapped around its cylindrical filter frame.

Notch wire wrapped off the element

Wrapped-off notch wire in engine lube oil pipes system
In most of the reported cases, the breakdown of the filter occurred shortly after maintenance or manual cleaning of the filter.

In the light of these incidents, we recommend the following:

At first opportunity:
- Inspect filter elements for damage, and make sure that the filter manufacturer's maintenance and safety instructions are observed.

During normal service:
- Inspect filters according to the filter manufacturer's inspection intervals.
- Daily observe and record the number of flushing times if applicable.
- Daily observe and record the differential pressure across the filter. The filter should be inspected if a sudden drop of the differential pressure is recorded. However, it should be noted that, depending on filter type, number of elements, etc., a wire may also break without causing a drop in the differential pressure.
- The Notch Wire Element filter should be inspected if the filter in the back flushing line (if applied) is to be changed more frequently than normal.

Questions or comments relating to this service letter should be directed to our Technical Service Dept. (4100) or Marine Installation Dept. (2160).

Yours faithfully

MAN Diesel A/S

[Signatures]

Carl-Erik Egeberg            Peter Michael Nielsen