

TCRA

Torque Converter Rebuilders Association

TCRA encourages ALL organization members, family and employees to take advantage of new scholarship program

The Torque Converter Rebuilder's Association (TCRA) has announced the establishment of a Scholarship Fund, to encourage and promote young people to enter the automotive field. Scholarship applications may be submitted by TCRA members and families, their employees and family members of employees. Applicants need to be entering some aspect of the automotive industry.

The number and amounts of the of scholarships will be decided by the TCRA Board of Directors each year. Applications must be submitted by March First of each year to be eligible, and the winner will be announced at the annual TCRA members meeting and seminar in late spring.

Applications, eligibility and requirements are available at the "Members Only" section of the TCRA web site, www.tcraonline.com or contact Len Wack at lenw@embarqmail.com

Month in Review... what's **HOT** online?

online question:

I have a high stall GM 9 1/2 converter out of a mud bogger pick-up that has the impeller fins under the stator all laid over in the direction of pump rotation. The pump is a #8 fin angle and the stator is a 380 spragless. This engine has over 1000 HP. Can anyone tell me why this converter laid the fins over and what can be changed to prevent this?

answer:

The engine is overpowering the unit and is causing the fins to bend over. Try changing the impeller blade to a number three, which has thicker blades than a number eight.

What's in your converter?

Everyone who has been in the torque converter rebuilding business has probably wondered, at one time or another, how much contamination is getting inside the converter as it is being welded together. As converter builders we have to make the determination of when to install a salvage ring, or weld up the bowl to allow more overlap between the bowl and cover, or to decrease the gap between the two, to prevent excessive weld splatter from entering the converter during the welding process. One way to check for this excessive weld splatter is to cut the converter back open to inspect for weld contamination.

However, another way is to look inside the converter while it is being welded. You might say this is impossible, but here is a way that this can be done. If you have an abundance of a particular core, or a non-rebuildable core, cut it open and just use the bowl and cover. Assemble it on the welder with the minimum overlap, or machine it so it has the maximum gap that you might normally have in a core that has been rebuilt several times. Now tack weld the two pieces together in eight spots (Fig.1). Take the converter back to

the lathe and cut it apart about an inch or so above the original seam (Fig. 2). Then take the cover back to the welder and weld as usual. You then can see inside the converter as it is being welded (Fig. 3). You may be surprised as you watch how much weld splatter enters the converter during weld-up. This process can be used to determine the maximum gap or minimum overlap between the two pieces to achieve minimal weld contamination in your converters.

Figure 1

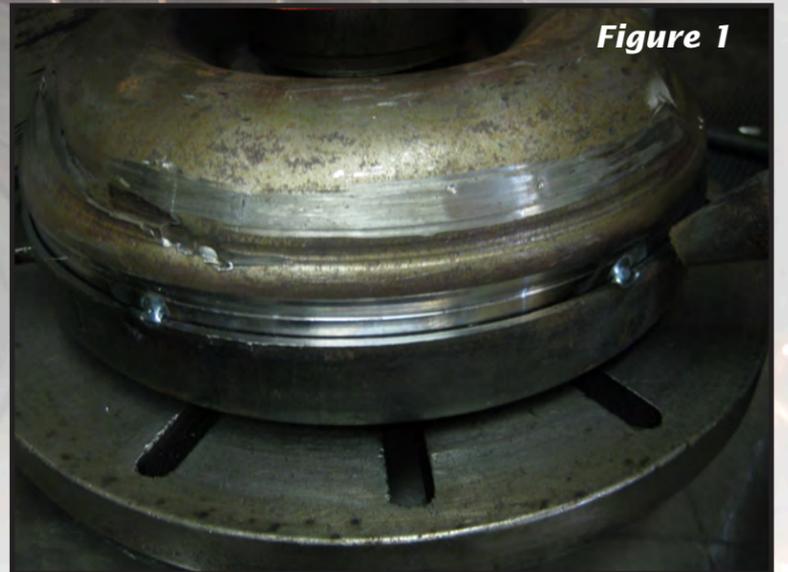


Figure 2

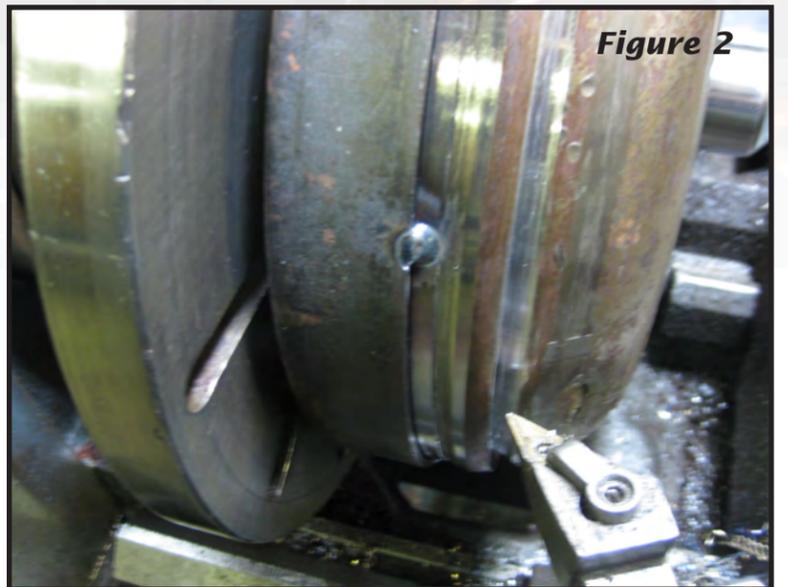
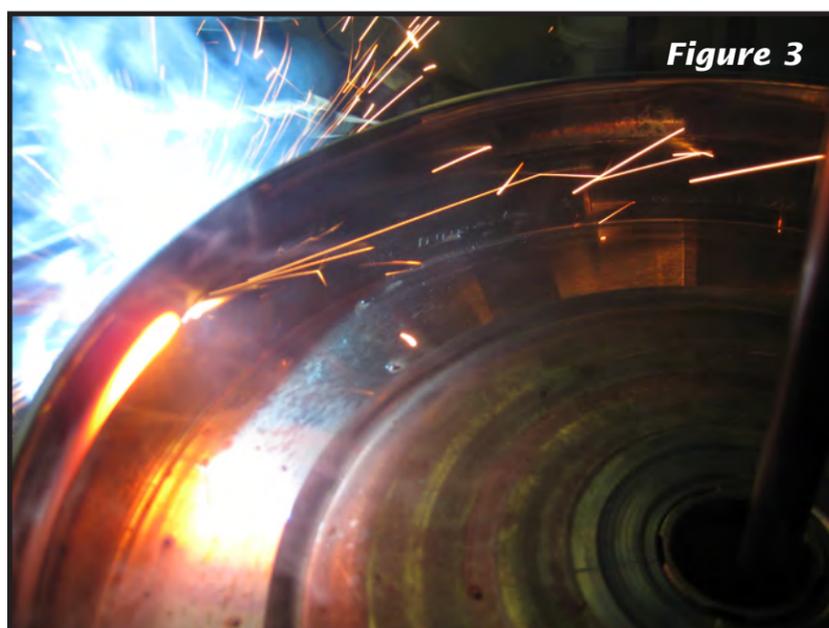


Figure 3



Rob Hans
Norfolk Transmission

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BORG WARNER



Monthly publication of TCRA newsletter provided by Melissa Hall

TRANSMISSION SPECIALTIES High Performance Torque converter and transmission parts.
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2011 ATRA Powertrain Expo lands in Las Vegas, Nevada next month!

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ATRA's Powertrain Expo arrives in Las Vegas, Nevada, next month. Even though early registrations for this year's event has already passed, don't miss the opportunity to be involved in management or technical seminars, luncheon and cocktail reception, and trade show spread across the five-day event.

Many of our own TCRA members are scheduled to speak, including Martin Brooks, John Parmenter, Bob Warnke, Joe Rivera, and Mike Riley along the side of ATRA's own Dennis Madden, Rodger Bland, Lance Wiggins, Mike Brown, Steve Garrett, Bill Brayton, and Mike Souza.

Numerous topics will be covered during the technical seminars, including quick fixes to transmission failures and repairs, components of transmission failure, common torque converter problems, and many other repair issues related to transmissions and torque converters.

Management seminars are sure to draw attention, too, as many speakers are planning to cover customer perception, online marketing, crisis processes and procedures, and other need-to-know topics for running a successful shop.

If you're not sold by the number of seminars to partake in, remember a trade show pass will provide access to over 100 exhibitors thanks to ATRA and APRA.

If you haven't registered, don't worry! Late registration may be done by calling (800) 428-8489, visiting the web at www.powertrainexpo.com, by fax (805) 988-6761, or by mail through October 14th. Only on-site registration is available after



October 14th. Visit the website for more information. Special hotel rates with the Las Vegas Hilton are still available for booking through October 6th. They include a special rate of \$99 per night October 25th-30th and \$169 per night October 31st-November 1st. Reservations may be made directly with the hotel at (800) 635-7711.

If you've never been or attend each year, this year's event is scheduled to impress everyone who makes the trip to Las Vegas. Seating is limited, so don't miss out!

TCRA Looking for Spotlights!

We would like to continue posting member spotlights in the newsletter. If you would like to share how your shop came to be and where you are today, please contact the TCRA newsletter at tcranewsletter@comcast.net

This forum gives you the opportunity to show pride in your facility and business, and photographs add a face to the story. Submit yours today!

Items For Sale

Got items for sale?

As a member of the TCRA, you can advertise for free right here, right now! Also have your items posted online.

Email tcranewsletter@comcast.net

Questions or comments? Contact the TCRA newsletter by e-mail at tcranewsletter@comcast.net visit the web www.tcronline.com or contact Dennis Sneath, newsletter committee team lead, at dgsneath@aol.com.

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