

03/26/2025 (rev 0) draft

Topic: New Material used for existing design

Grease Thief Body Material Change

TB-25-004



Figure 1 shows the new update on the left and original on the right

Introduction:

This technical bulletin serves to inform users of a new material being used for Grease Thief (GT) body (ABS Plastic). ABS plastic has similar strength and modulus properties as the previous GT body material, but with improved optical clarity, enhancing inspections when installed and removing.

Scope: This technical bulletin covers changes in kits moving forward. This will affect all kits moving forward except the kits that are designed for long-term implementation of being threaded into the equipment. The only other kits that are exceptions are electric motor kits and robot assembly kits; these will not be affected and will remain unchanged.



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Technical Bulletin
TB-25-004



Background:

The previous transparent plastic created challenges in implementing the colorimetry method developed in (ASTM D7918-17) and introduced a source of measurement error in colorimetry when performed through the body.

Another change that is new is the removal of purge holes on the GT body for all kits except the electric motor kit, which is the only design suitable for threading into a housing drain. All other uses will now be made with the T-handle tool, which will core the sample upon insertion, or transfer methods using the GT Filler, which will start with the piston flush with the open end and will fill as the grease enters and displaces the piston.

The Concern :

From the original development of the Grease Thief Sampling Kits, Grease Thiefs were designed with many different industry requirements. The requirements sent down from the laboratory for testing have implemented a change in the body material while maintaining industry requirements. The clear body material will enhance the colorimetry testing for laboratory use.

What this Means For You:

As of January 2025, MRG Laboratories has started distributing a new version of the grease thief. This will be used for all test kits except the electric motor. The new revision with clear plastics not only gives a visible improvement on the grease but also enhances results during colorimetry which results in higher accuracy and precise results. These changes to the Grease Thief materials will enhance the results and visual inspection of grease sample that are sent to labs.

Recommendations:

Continue to use the grease thief as normal. For those inspecting an installed grease thief in the field or performing colorimetry through the body will notice differences in color. Never install Grease Thief without holes in grease reservoirs. This new version will not change any of the functions or filling method for the grease thief. The original version will continue to be used in certain applications.

Questions or requests for more information may be directed to:

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