



STERN DRIVES/INBOARD ENGINES

service bulletin

NUMBER: 82-7

DATE: 7/09/82

CIRCULATE TO:
SERVICE MANAGER
PARTS MANAGER
MECHANICS

A. NEW MERCUISER I STAINLESS STEEL PROPELLER LINE

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The stainless steel propellers in the current MerCruiser I propeller line will be superseded to the V-6 Black Max stainless steel propellers, shown below. These propellers will perform approximately equal to their MerCruiser I predecessors. In some cases, their higher rake design (15° versus 10°) will allow the drive unit to be trimmed out farther, thereby holding the bow of the boat higher and providing improved boat performance.

BLACK MAX STAINLESS STEEL PROPELLERS

Part Number	Diameter	Pitch
48-93272A4	14-1/2"	15"
48-79794A4	14-1/2"	17"
48-73980A4	14"	19"
48-73982A4	13-3/4"	21"
48-75724A4	13-1/2"	23"
48-79796A4	13-3/8"	25"

As inventories of current MerCruiser I propellers are depleted, they will be superseded to the Black Max propellers as shown below.

MC-I TO BLACK MAX PROPELLER SUPERSESSSION

MC-I	Superseded by	Black Max
None 15" Pitch	" "	48-93272A4 15" Pitch
48-88438A4 17" Pitch	" "	48-79794A4 17" Pitch
48-88440A4 19" Pitch	" "	48-73980A4 19" Pitch
48-88442A4 21" Pitch	" "	48-73982A4 21" Pitch
48-88444A4 23" Pitch	" "	48-75724A4 23" Pitch
48-88446A4 25" Pitch	" "	48-79796A4 25" Pitch

Our testing has shown that a reduction in engine speed of up to 150 RPM may be experienced when changing from a MerCruiser I to a Black Max propeller of the same pitch. Therefore, if engine RPM was in lower half of specified range with MerCruiser I propeller, a Black Max propeller 2" less in pitch than MerCruiser I propeller may be required to keep RPM within specified range. Since the RPM difference between the MerCruiser I and the Black Max propellers vary with boat design, ALL boats should be retested after installing Black Max propellers to ensure that engine RPM falls within specified range.

When changing from a MerCruiser I to a Black Max propeller a new forward thrust hub (77987) also is required. (Figure 1) Forward thrust hub (56292A1) used with MerCruiser I propellers CANNOT be used with Black Max propellers. All other propeller attaching hardware remain the same.

Long trim tab (34127A1) will interfere with the 17", 19", 21", 23" and 25" Black Max propellers. When using these propellers, short trim tab (31640A1) MUST BE used. (Figure 2) The short trim tab has been standard on all MerCruiser I Stern Drives since approximately the 1976 model year.

IMPORTANT: It is extremely important that propeller attaching hardware is installed correctly, when using Black Max propellers, or interference between propeller and trim tab may result. Attaching hardware is properly installed when at least two threads of propeller shaft are exposed thru the propeller nut. Less than two threads being exposed, could indicate that spline washer is not engaged with splines on propeller shaft. After installation, propeller should be rotated by hand (while pulling it rearward) to ensure that blades clear trim tab.

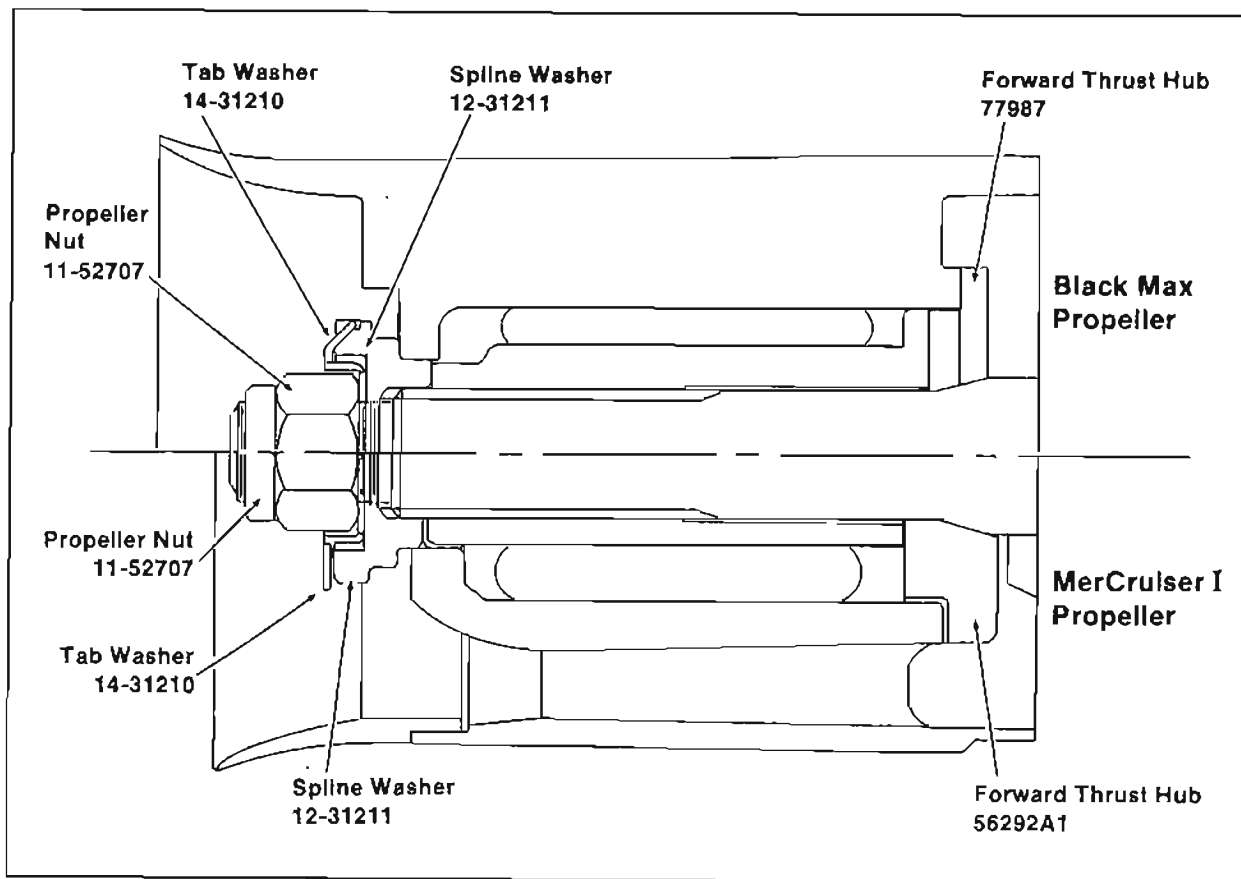


Figure 1. Propeller Attaching Hardware

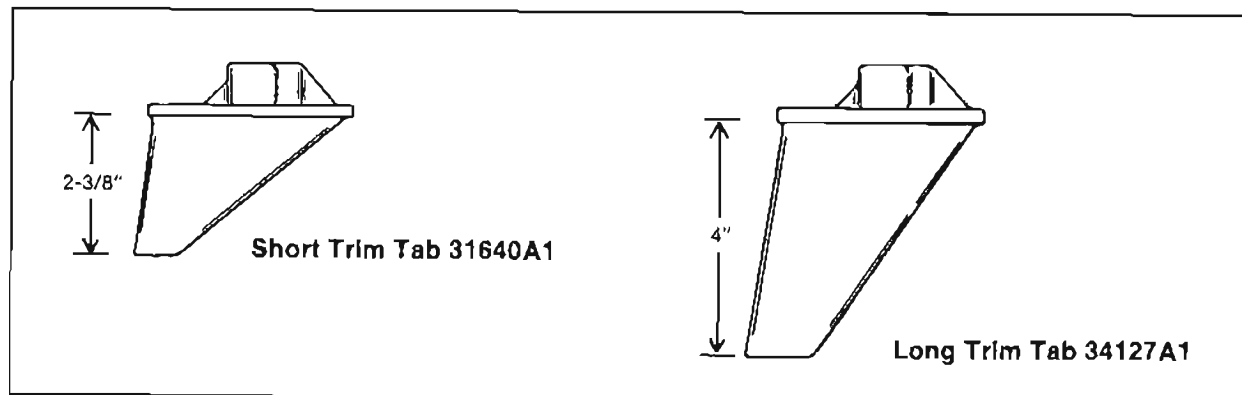


Figure 2. Long and Short Trim Tab