



# Technical Bulletin

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## Coolant Loss On 1992-97 GM 4.3L VIN R & W Engines

The AERA Technical Committee offers the following information regarding coolant loss on 1992-97 GM 4.3L VIN R & W engines. At times this loss has been termed slow and difficult to determine the location.

The cause of this coolant loss has been associated to cracks that may develop in the lifter valley area of the block. The reported cracks are located just above the tappet bores and may extend from the front to the rear of the block. Cracks of this nature allow coolant to pass into the valley of the block. This loss of coolant can lead to engine overheating or contamination of the engine lubricating oil supply or both.

While these cracks are not always visible by the naked eye, they can be readily identified through the use of standard crack detection equipment. While these cracks may be repaired by various methods, evaluating the severity and length of all cracks before other machining processes may prove cost effective. In most cases, extensively cracked blocks should be discarded.

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