



COMMERCIAL POWER

# SMOKING

## Look for or check

### LIQUID-COOLED ENGINE TROUBLESHOOTING WARNING SIGNS

#### BLACK SMOKE

**GAS Overview:** Rich running engine  
**DIESEL Overview:** Timing advanced/  
overloaded engine, dirty nozzle or  
faulty turbocharger.

#### WHITE SMOKE

**GAS Overview:** Burning coolant  
**DIESEL Overview:** Low combustion temp.,  
lack of fuel, improper fuel, defective nozzle,  
retarded timing, burning coolant.

#### BLUE SMOKE

**GAS Overview:** Burning oil  
**DIESEL Overview:** Burning oil

##### AIRFILTER



**GAS:** Check condition of air filter, replace if in question. Restricted air filter can cause a rich running condition.

Check condition of air filter, replace if in question.

**DIESEL:** Check condition of air filter, replace if in question. Restricted air filter can cause a high intake vacuum and potentially pull oil from air breather.

##### OIL LEVEL



Check and maintain proper oil level. Refer to engine owner manual for proper grade and type.

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Check for signs of coolant in engine oil. Additionally do compression and leak-down test on engine.

##### COOLANT LEVEL



Maintain a 50/50 mix of water and antifreeze. Keep coolant level full.

Pressure test cooling system, follow procedure and values found in repair manual

Maintain a 50/50 mix of water and antifreeze. Keep coolant level full.

Look for signs of oil in coolant if found do compression test and pressure test of cooling system.

##### FUEL SYSTEM



**GAS:** Check for proper choke operation. Inspect spark plugs firing end condition to aid in diagnosis

**DIESEL:** Replace fuel filter, clogged fuel filter, air in fuel lines or restricted flow can cause white smoke.

**DIESEL:** If fuel primer is getting pulled down during operation, look for blockage in tank, fuel line, shut off valve or filter.

Ensure fuel is of proper grade minimum of 40 cetane

##### ENGINE TIMING



**DIESEL:** Black smoke can be caused by advanced timing

**DIESEL:** White smoke may be an indication of retarded engine timing.

Perform compression and leakdown testing of engine as outlined in repair manual

##### COMPRESSION



Perform compression and leakdown testing of engine as outlined in repair manual

**DIESEL:** White smoke may be an indication of low combustion temperature. Check and reset valve clearances as required. Perform compression test on engine.

The best way to resolve a problem is to identify it by testing. A compression test, leakdown or pressure test is required prior to any engine disassembly.



# OVERHEATING

## Look for or check

COMMERCIAL POWER

### LIQUID-COOLED ENGINE TROUBLESHOOTING WARNING SIGNS



**TEMPATURE  
LIGHT  
COMES ON**



COOLANT TEMPERATURE  
GAUGE READS ABOVE

**220° F (105° C)**

NORMAL RANGE

**175° - 220° F  
(80° - 104° C)**



**COOLANT  
OVERFLOW  
AT WATER  
RESERVOIR**

#### RADIATOR



Inspect debris guards.  
Note there may be more  
than one.  
See owners manual for  
engine/equipment

Clean debris from  
debris guard radiator fins.

Check radiator condition,  
look for leaks or any visible  
damage or kinked / bulged  
hoses. Pressure test cooling  
system if in question.

#### FAN BELT



Inspect belt condition.  
Look for signs of wear  
or glazing.  
Replace if in doubt.

Inspect belt tension / adjust.  
Loose belt may not allow  
the water pump to operate  
properly.

Some applications use  
electric or hydraulic fans.  
Consult equipment  
owners manual.

#### COOLANT LEVEL



Check coolant level in  
radiator and in reservoir.  
If low, check for signs  
of leakage.

Inspect coolant condition.  
Make sure coolant mix  
is 50/50%.  
Check for oil in coolant or  
coolant in crankcase.

Do a compression and  
leakdown test if oil is  
found in coolant or coolant  
is found in oil.

#### THERMOSTAT



Check thermostat  
condition. Replace if  
engine has overheated.

This requires some engine  
disassembly and draining  
the cooling system.  
Consult Repair Manual

Thermostat should open  
between 178° - 183° F  
(81° - 84° C). Replace ther-  
mostat P/N 825064.

#### RADIATOR CAP



Check radiator cap for signs  
of leakage.

Inspect rubber seal under  
cap for rips and tears.  
Replace if damaged.  
Pressure test radiator cap.  
Consult Repair Manual

Cap should hold 11-15 PSI.  
Replacement cap  
P/N 820258.

#### SPECIAL NOTES AND WARNINGS



**WARNING:** The cooling  
system is pressurized.  
**DO NOT** remove the  
radiator cap while the  
engine is hot.

Refer to Section 13 Cooling  
System of the Briggs &  
Stratton liquid-cooled engine  
repair manual for specifica-  
tions and detailed procedures.

**IF THE ABOVE STEPS ARE  
BEYOND YOUR ABILITY,  
PLEASE CONSULT YOUR  
LOCAL SERVICE DEALER.**

### Vanguard 3/LC Engine Compression

Engine Model	Nominal Valve	Minimum Valve
<b>700G</b>	<b>192 psi at 400rpm</b>	<b>142 psi at 400 rpm</b>
<b>950G</b>	<b>200 psi at 400 rpm</b>	<b>150 psi at 400 rpm</b>
<b>954G</b>	<b>215 psi at 400 rpm</b>	<b>155 psi at 400 rpm</b>
<b>700D</b>	<b>498 psi at 300 rpm</b>	<b>384 psi at 300 rpm</b>
<b>850D</b>	<b>512 psi at 300 rpm</b>	<b>384 psi at 300 rpm</b>
<b>950D</b>	<b>526 psi at 300 rpm</b>	<b>384 psi at 300 rpm</b>
<b>950DT/954DT</b>	<b>526 psi at 300 rpm</b>	<b>384 psi at 300 rpm</b>

#### Checking Compression Pressure on Vanguard 3/LC Diesel Engines:

Cylinder compression testing is a valuable tool that can reveal a great deal about the internal condition of the engine. If components such as pistons, rings, valves, and head gaskets are doing their job, compression readings will be up to specification and consistent across all cylinders. A cylinder that is not within the specified compression reading indicates a problem. If it is decided that the engine must be removed for overhaul or major repair work contact your local Briggs and Stratton Distributor for authorization.

1. Engine oil level, air cleaner, starting motor, and battery must be well conditioned.
2. Clean the area around the glow plugs before you remove them (compressed air should be used). The idea is to prevent dirt from getting into the cylinders as the compression check is being done.
3. Thoroughly warm up the engine (coolant temperature of 176-194F).
4. Disconnect fuel solenoid wire harness before starting test.
5. Remove all glow plugs. Install (#19443) glow plug gauge adapter firmly into cylinder number one glow plug hole.
6. Attach diesel compression gauge (#19555 Diesel compression tester) to glow plug adapter.
7. Crank engine until a stable reading is obtained on compression gauge. Record the highest gauge reading obtained.
8. Repeat the procedure for the remaining cylinders, document these readings on the Troubleshooting Worksheet and compare to the specifications listed.

Always consult engine operating & maintenance instructions manual and engine repair manual for specific values and procedures.

[www.briggsandstratton.com](http://www.briggsandstratton.com)

[www.briggsnetwork.com](http://www.briggsnetwork.com)



## 3/LC ENGINE TROUBLESHOOTING WORKSHEET

Equipment Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_ Warranty Claim No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Purchase: \_\_\_\_\_ Control No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Customer Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hours Used: \_\_\_\_\_  
Engine Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Dealer Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Engine Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Dealer Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Engine Code S/N: \_\_\_\_\_ Dealer Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

### COMBUSTION

		YES/GOOD	NO/BAD	
Check valve clearance	Adjust			
Check compression pressure.	Compression test	Cyl.#1	Cyl.#2	Cyl.#3
	FINDINGS >			
Leakdown test	FINDINGS >	Cyl.#1	Cyl.#2	Cyl.#3

### LUBRICATION

		YES/GOOD	NO/BAD	FINDINGS
Engine oil level	Adjust as required			
Oil condition	Check viscosity/color			
Oil pressure	Check oil pressure at 3000 RPM			
Oil condition	Check for coolant in oil			

### FUEL

		YES/GOOD	NO/BAD	FINDINGS
Sufficient fuel in tank	Fill tank			
Fuel shut off valve	Open fuel valve			
Vent plugged	Open vent cap or unplug vent hole			
Faulty fuel pump/gas	Check pressure & delivery output			
Improper fuel/stale fuel	Drain, flush tank & refill			
Contaminated fuel/water dirt	Drain, flush tank & refill			
Kinked or clogged fuel line	Check fuel flow			
Fuel solenoid not operational Gas	Clean or replace solenoid, check wire connections, gasket ground			

### DIESEL

		YES/GOOD	NO/BAD	FINDINGS
Check fuel flow	Does fuel flow from return line			
Injector	Check pop-off press. & spray pattern			
Injection Pump	12 Volts to solenoid			
Glow plugs	Check voltage at glow plugs			
Fuel filter	White smoke can be caused by clogged fuel filter			



**COOLANT**

YES/GOOD

NO/BAD

FINDINGS

Engine may not be warming up due to defective thermostat	Replace thermostat			
Coolant level in surge tank	Overflow in surge tank could be result of overheating			
Check alternator belt deflection	Is belt deflection within spec.?			
Check for leaks	Look for any leaks			
Check level of antifreeze	Radiator should be full			
Pressure test radiator	Pressurize system to 11 psi			
Check radiator cap condition	Pressure test spec 11-15 psi			
Check coolant condition	50/50 mix required			
Check for oil in coolant	May indicate blown head gasket Do compression/leakdown test			

**ENGINE NOISE**

YES/GOOD

NO/BAD

FINDINGS

Check valve clearance	Adjust			
Isolate engine	Remove all PTO drives to isolate engine from equipment			

**EXHAUST GAS CONDITIONS**

YES/GOOD

NO/BAD

FINDINGS

Abnormal smell	Check plugs inspect condition. Deposits found and color. FINDINGS >	Cyl.#1	Cyl.#2	Cyl.#3
Smoke blue/gray - oil: Compression & leak down test. Possible cause blown head gasket, damaged valve or valve seat, damaged piston ring, worn cylinder, bent rod. FINDINGS >		Cyl.#1	Cyl.#2	Cyl.#3
Smoke black: Check plugs to confirm rich running condition, inspect/replace air filter, timing				

**SPARK**

YES/GOOD

NO/BAD

FINDINGS

Check spark plugs	Replace bad plugs			
Check plugs / inspect condition.	Record gaps, deposits found and color. FINDINGS >	Cyl.#1	Cyl.#2	Cyl.#3
Spark plug lead disconnected	Connect all plug leads			
Check ignition wiring system	Tighten, clean, repair, replace			
Check all connectors	Tighten, clean, repair, replace			
Check ignition coils & leads	Replace bad coil or lead			
Check ignition module	Replace bad module			

**CARBURETOR**

YES/GOOD

NO/BAD

FINDINGS

Choke not operating properly	Adjust or repair			
Dirty air filter	Replace			
Fuel filter dirty	Replace			
Air intake leaks	Check intake systems for any signs of leaks, torque all fasteners			

**IDLE TO HIGH/LOW**

YES

NO

Reset to

Idle speed screw not set correct	Re-adjust idle speed screw			
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