

CRITICAL ITEMS LIST (CIL)

No. 10-02-01-40R/01

SYSTEM:	Space Shuttle RSRM 10	CRITICALITY CATEGORY:	1R
SUBSYSTEM:	Nozzle Subsystem 10-02	PART NAME:	Fixed Housing-to-Aft End Ring
ASSEMBLY:	Nozzle and Aft Exit Cone 10-02-01		Joint, Primary O-ring, Leak
FMEA ITEM NO.:	10-02-01-40R Rev M		Check Port Plug (2)
CIL REV NO.:	M (DCN-533)	PART NO.:	(See Section 6.0)
DATE:	10 Apr 2002	PHASE(S):	Boost (BT)
SUPERSEDES PAGE:	340-1ff.	QUANTITY:	(See Section 6.0)
DATED:	31 Jul 2000	EFFECTIVITY:	(See Table 101-6)
CIL ANALYST:	B. A. Frandsen	HAZARD REF.:	BN-03
APPROVED BY:		DATE:	

RELIABILITY ENGINEERING: K. G. Sanofsky 10 Apr 2002

ENGINEERING: B. H. Prescott 10 Apr 2002

- 1.0 FAILURE CONDITION: Failure during operation (D)
- 2.0 FAILURE MODE: 1.0 Leakage of primary O-ring and leak check port plug
- 3.0 FAILURE EFFECTS: Failure could result in hot gas flowing through joint resulting in a burn through and loss of nozzle, causing thrust imbalance between SRBs resulting in loss of RSRM, SRB, crew, and vehicle

4.0 FAILURE CAUSES (FC):

FC NO.	DESCRIPTION	FAILURE CAUSE KEY
1.1	Nonconforming O-ring splice or repair	A
1.2	Nonconforming O-ring dimensions	B
1.3	O-ring cut or damaged	C
1.4	Nonconforming O-ring voids, inclusions, or subsurface indications	D
1.5	Age degradation of O-ring	E
1.6	Moisture and/or fungus degradation of O-ring	F
1.7	O-ring gland does not meet dimensional or surface finish requirements	G
1.8	O-ring improperly installed	H
1.9	Transportation, handling, or assembly damage	I
1.10	Sealing surfaces contamination or corrosion	J
1.11	Nonconforming O-ring physical or mechanical properties	K
1.12	Leak check port plug improperly installed	L
1.13	Nonconforming plug mechanical properties	M
1.14	Nonconforming thread dimensions	N

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1.15 Nonconforming plug materials

O

5.0 REDUNDANCY SCREENS:

- SCREEN A: Fail--The leak check port seal can not be verified during mission turnaround. The primary O-ring can not be verified during mission turnaround due to blockage of potential leak path by sealant.
- SCREEN B: Fail--No provision is made for failure detection by the crew.
- SCREEN C: Pass--The primary O-ring and leak check port plug seals can not be lost by a single credible cause.

1. The primary O-ring and leak check port plug form part of a redundant seal system when the secondary O-ring seals. The leak check port plug will not be pressurized unless the primary O-ring fails. If the primary O-ring fails, the leak check port plug (in addition to the secondary O-ring) will be pressurized and maintain a seal. If the primary O-ring and the leak check port plug fail, a leak path will exist and could result in loss of vehicle and crew.

6.0 ITEM DESCRIPTION:

1. There is one fixed housing-to-aft end ring joint on each RSRM, with a leak check port located between the primary and the secondary O-ring. The assembled joint is shown per Figures 1 and 2 for the nose-throat-bearing-cowl-housing assembly, nozzle. Materials are listed in Table 1.
2. The Leak Check Port Plug is also known as the RSRM Port Plug (closure screw).

TABLE 1. MATERIALS

Drawing No.	Name	Material	Specification	Quantity
1U79153	Nose-Throat-Bearing-Cowl Housing Assembly, Nozzle			1/motor
1U78676	RSRM Port Plug	CRES	AMS 5646	1/motor
1U50228	Packing, Preformed	Black Fluorocarbon Rubber	STW4-3339	1/motor
1U75150	Packing, Preformed Fluorocarbon	Black Fluorocarbon Rubber	STW4-3339	1/motor
1U52833	Aft End Ring			1/motor
1U52945	Housing, Nozzle-Fixed Corrosion-Preventive Compound and O-ring Lubricant	Heavy-Duty Calcium Grease	STW5-2942	A/R
1U51916	Cartridge Assembly	Heavy-Duty Calcium Grease, Filtered and Loaded in an Application Cartridge	STW7-3657	A/R

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6.1 CHARACTERISTICS:

1. The fixed nozzle housing-to-aft end ring joint allows the nose-throat-bearing-cowl nozzle assembly to be mated to the housing cowl and boot assembly at Thiokol. The unit is sealed with O-rings and there is one leak check port to verify that there is no leakage after assembly.
2. The seals at the fixed nozzle housing-to-aft end ring joint are designed so that the O-ring maintains constant contact with its cavity at all times. Squeeze, fill, and tracking are taken into account relating to O-ring groove tolerances.
3. The leak check port plug and its O-ring, as well as the primary O-ring, are one-time-use items.
4. The joint and seals are an important part of the assembled rocket motor case. The assembled RSRM is a combustion chamber made up of segments and the nozzle and is sealed with O-rings and must contain and direct pressure generated by burning propellant.

7.0 FAILURE HISTORY/RELATED EXPERIENCE:

1. Current data on test failures, flight failures, unexplained failures, and other failures during RSRM ground processing activity can be found in the PRACA Database.

8.0 OPERATIONAL USE: N/A

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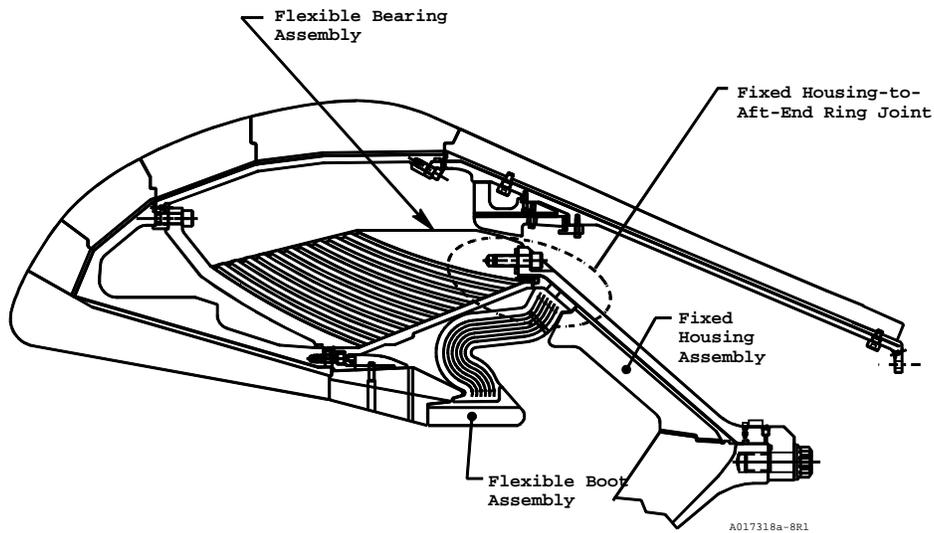


Figure 1. Fixed Housing-to-Aft End Ring Joint Location

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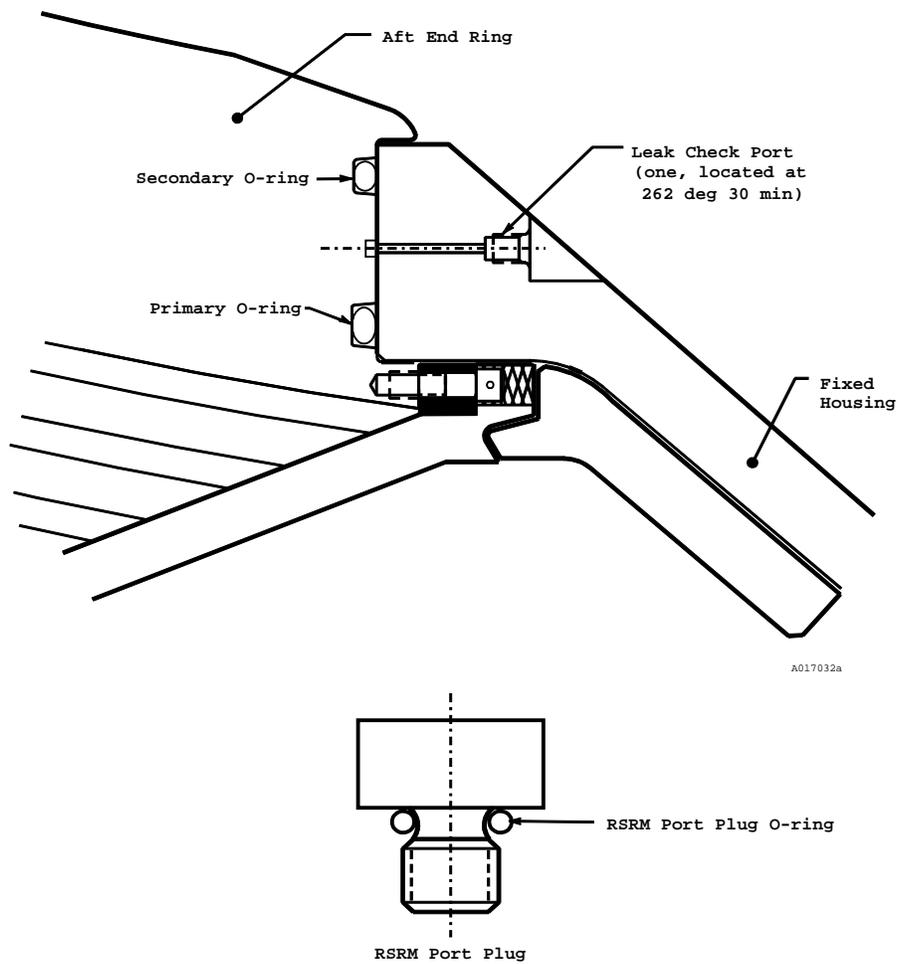


Figure 2. Fixed Housing-to-Aft End Ring Joint and RSRM Port Plug

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9.0 RATIONALE FOR RETENTION:

9.1 DESIGN:

DCN FAILURE CAUSES

- | | |
|-----|---|
| A | 1. Large O-rings are per engineering that covers process controls for fabrication of spliced joints and repairs. |
| A | 2. Splice joints are cut on an angle and bonded together in a mold (using 100 percent of the scarf area) using an adhesive with the same physical and chemical properties as the parent stock. |
| A,D | 3. O-rings were tested to determine size and types of flaws that could cause sealing problems per TWR-17750 and TWR-17991. |
| A | 4. The leak check port O-ring is not spliced. |
| B | 5. Criteria for primary O-ring dimensions are per TWR-15771. |
| B | 6. Both O-ring designs provide a constant contact between the O-ring and mating sealing surfaces. |
| B,D | 7. Small and large O-rings are per engineering that establishes geometric dimensions, design requirements, and fabrication details. |
| C,H | 8. Small and large O-rings are individually packaged per engineering. |
| C,H | 9. Large O-ring design allows for a minimum of stretching during installation without damage to the O-ring per engineering. |
| C,H | 10. The leak check port O-ring is assembled with the RSRM Port Plug (closure screw) using an O-ring installation aid. |
| C | 11. Material selection for O-rings was based in part on resistance to damage per TWR-17082. |
| C,H | 12. Design development testing of O-ring twisting and its effect on performance is per ETP-0153 and TWR-17991. |
| E | 13. Fluorocarbon rubber O-rings are suitable for periods of storage of up to 20 years (O-ring Handbook, ORD 5700, Copyright 1982, by Parker Seal Group, Lexington, KY). Environment and age are significant to useful seal life, both in storage and actual service as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. O-rings are packaged and stored to preclude deterioration caused by ozone, grease, ultraviolet light, and excessive temperature. |
| E | 14. Small and large O-ring time duration of supplier storage and total shelf life prior to installation is per engineering. |
| E | 15. Aging studies of O-rings after 5 years installation life were performed. Test results are also applicable to all RSRM fluorocarbon seals. Fluorocarbon maintained its tracking ability and resiliency. Fluorocarbon was certified to maintain its sealing capability over 5 years per TWR-65546. |
| E | 16. O-rings (leak check port and primary) are one-time-use items. |

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- E 17. Grease is stored at warehouse-ambient condition that is any condition of temperature and relative humidity experienced by the material when stored in an enclosed warehouse, in unopened containers, or containers that were resealed after each use. Storage life under these conditions is per engineering.
- E 18. Aging studies to demonstrate characteristics of grease after 5 years installation life were performed on TEM-9. Results showed that grease provided adequate corrosion protection for D6AC steel, and that all chemical properties of the grease remained intact per TWR-61408 and TWR-64397.
- E 19. Large O-rings, small O-rings, and filtered grease are included in the aft segment life verification.
- F 20. Small and large O-rings are black fluorocarbon rubber.
- F 21. O-ring swell is negligible unless the O-ring undergoes a long period of water immersion (O-ring Handbook, ORD 5700, Copyright 1982, by Parker Seal Group, Lexington, KY).
- F 22. Fluorocarbon rubber is a non-nutrient to fungus growth (O-ring Handbook, ORD 5700, Copyright 1982, by Parker Seal Group, Lexington, KY).
- F 23. Small and large O-rings are kept dry and clean prior to packaging.
- F 24. Small O-rings are individually packaged in an opaque, waterproof, grease-proof, and heat-sealed bag per engineering.
- G 25. Primary O-ring gland design is per engineering drawings and conforms to dimensions determined by Thiokol Design Engineering calculations for squeeze and fill per TWR-15771.
- G,L,N 26. RSRM Port Plug (closure screw) design requirements are per engineering drawings and specifications.
- G 27. Leak check port design is per engineering drawings and conforms to design criteria of MS specifications.
- G,N 28. The RSRM Port Plug (closure screw) is a one-time-use item.
- G 29. Design verification analysis of data from live firing tests per TWR-16534 and TWR-17563 shows that O-ring sealing surfaces are acceptable for flight per TWR-18764-09.
- G 30. Sealing surface requirements during refurbishment are per engineering drawings and specifications.
- I 31. Transportation and handling of nozzle assembly items by Thiokol is per IHM 29.
- I 32. The RSRM and its component parts, when protected per TWR-10299 and TWR-11325, are capable of being handled and transported by rail or other suitable means to and from fabrication, test, operational launch, recovery or retrieval, and refurbishment sites.
- I 33. Positive cradling or support devices and tie downs that conform to shape, size, weight, and contour of components to be transported are provided to support RSRM segments and other components. Shock mounting and other protective devices are used on trucks and dollies to move sensitive loads per TWR-13880.

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|-----------|-----|---|
| I | 34. | Support equipment used to test, handle, transport, and assemble or disassemble the RSRM is certified and verified per TWR-15723. |
| I | 35. | Analysis is conducted by Thiokol engineering to assess vibration and shock load response of the RSRM nozzle during transportation and handling to assembly and launch sites per TWR-16975. |
| I | 36. | The nozzle assembly is shipped in the aft segment. Railcar transportation shock and vibration levels are monitored per engineering and applicable loads are derived by analysis. Monitoring records are evaluated by Thiokol to verify shock and vibration levels per MSFC specification SE-019-049-2H were not exceeded. TWR-16975 documents compliance of the nozzle with environments per MSFC specifications. |
| J | 37. | Filtered grease is applied to nozzle sealing surfaces during final assembly processes for the nozzle nose-throat-bearing-cowl-housing assembly. |
| J | 38. | Filtered grease filtering is per engineering to control contamination. |
| J | 39. | Removal of surface contamination or corrosion is a standard shop practice used whenever contamination or corrosion is noted. |
| J | 40. | Contamination control requirements and procedures are per TWR-16564. |
| M,O | 41. | RSRM Port Plug (closure screw) material is corrosion and heat-resistant steel per Aerospace Material Specifications. |
| K | 42. | Small and large O-rings are high-temperature, low-compression set, fluid-resistant, black fluorocarbon rubber. |
| J | 43. | Filtered grease is per engineering drawings and conforms to material requirements determined by Thiokol engineering. |
| K | 44. | Temperature prior to launch is monitored for the nozzle flexible bearing and Case-to-Nozzle Joint and is maintained per TWR-15832. The Fixed Housing-to-Aft End Ring Joint is within the temperature maintained area and benefits from temperature conditioning. Joint thermal analysis (O-ring resiliency testing) is per ETP-0276 and TWR-18597. |
| L | 45. | Required torque for the RSRM Port Plug (closure screw) is called out per engineering drawings and specifications. This value is based on results from sealability tests documented in TWR-17364. |
| N | 46. | Dimensions of the threaded port in the nozzle fixed housing are per engineering drawings. |
| N | 47. | Dimensions of the threaded port in the nozzle fixed housing during refurbishment are per engineering drawings. |
| B,G,I | 48. | Analysis of carbon-cloth phenolic ply angle changes for the nozzle was performed. Results show that redesigned nozzle phenolic components have a reduced in-plane fiber strain and wedge-out potential per TWR-16975. New loads that were driven by the Performance Enhancement (PE) Program were addressed in TWR-73984. No significant effects on the performance of the RSRM nozzle were identified due to PE. |
| 533 B,G,I | 49. | Thermal analysis per TWR-17219 shows the nozzle phenolic meets the new performance factor equation based on the remaining virgin material after boost |



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phase is complete. This performance factor will be equal to or greater than a safety factor of 1.4 for the fixed housing assembly per TWR-74238 and TWR-75135. (Carbon phenolic-to-glass interface, bondline temperature and metal housing temperatures were all taken into consideration). The new performance factor will insure that the CEI requirements will be met which requires that the bond between carbon and glass will not exceed 600 degree F, bondline of glass-to-metal remains at ambient temperature during boost phase, and the metal will not be heat affected at splashdown.

L,N,O

50. RSRM Port Plug (closure screw) vibration testing, documented in TWR-73485, demonstrated that a very small amount of torque from any combination of O-ring load or thread friction is sufficient to prevent loss of port plugs during flight.

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9.2 TEST AND INSPECTION:

FAILURE CAUSES and DCN TESTS (T)			CIL CODE
1. For New Large O-ring verify:			
A		a. Diameter	AEB026,AEB027
A		b. Splice is bonded over 100 percent of the scarf area	AEB133,AEB134
A		c. No more than five splices	AEB167,AEB169
A		d. Repairs	AEB265,AEB266
A		e. Adhesive is made from fluorocarbon rubber	AEB308,AEB311
A		f. Splice bond integrity	AEB319,AEB317
A,D	(T)	g. Subsurface indications	AEB354
A,C,D,F		h. Surface quality	AEB388,AEB389
A,K	(T)	i. Tensile strength	AEB401,AEB402
A,K	(T)	j. Ultimate elongation	AEB442,AEB443
B		k. Diameter	AEB014,AEB015,AEB018,AEB023
B,H		l. Correct identification	AEB087,AEB100
C,E,F		m. Packaging for damage or violation	AEB179
E,F,K		n. Material is fluorocarbon rubber	AEB141,AEB151
E,F		o. Packaging is free of staples or other objects	LAA054
F		p. Clean and dry when packaged	AEB031,AEB034
K	(T)	q. Tensile strength	AEB394,AEB396
K	(T)	r. Ultimate elongation	AGM408,AGW075
K	(T)	s. Shore A hardness	AGM304,AGM312
K	(T)	t. Compression set	AKW006,AKW011
2. For New Small O-ring verify:			
B		a. Correct identification	AAQ047
B		b. Inside diameter "A"	AAQ002,AAQ003
B		c. Cross-sectional dimension "W"	AAQ004,AAQ062
B		d. Flash dimensions	AAQ111,AAQ112
C,D,F		e. Surface quality	AAQ234,AAQ233
E,F		f. Individually packaged and sealed in opaque bags; material is per engineering	AAQ211
E		g. No shipping or handling damage	AAQ212
F,K		h. Material is fluorocarbon rubber	AAQ157,AAQ117
F		i. Dry and clean prior to packaging	AAQ023
K	(T)	j. Shore A hardness	LAA001,LAA006,LAA011,LAA016
K	(T)	k. Tensile strength	LAA002,LAA007,LAA012,LAA017
K	(T)	l. Ultimate elongation	LAA003,LAA008,LAA013,LAA018
K	(T)	m. Compression-set	LAA004,LAA009,LAA014,LAA019
K	(T)	n. Tear strength	LAA005,LAA010,LAA015,LAA020
3. For New Nose-Throat-Bearing-Cowl Housing Assembly, Nozzle verify:			
H		a. Correct identification of leak check port O-ring at time of installation	AAQ046
C,H		b. Installation and fit of primary O-ring	ADQ079
C,H		c. Proper installation of leak check port O-ring using installation tool	ADQ181
C		d. Condition of primary O-ring after installation into O-ring groove	ADQ001
H,J,L		e. Application of filtered grease to Housing, Nozzle-Fixed forward end leak check port prior to assembly	ADQ028
H,J,L		f. Application of filtered grease to RSRM Port Plug (closure screw) prior to assembly	ADQ029
H,J		g. Application of filtered grease to Aft End Ring O-ring grooves prior to assembly	ADQ012

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H	h.	Application of filtered grease to leak check port O-ring prior to assembly	ADQ018
H	i.	Application of filtered grease to primary O-ring prior to assembly	ADQ021
C,H	j.	Leak check port O-ring is free from damage after installation onto RSRM Port Plug (closure screw)	ADQ099
C	k.	Leak check port O-ring is free from damage prior to mating with RSRM Port Plug (closure screw)	ADQ100
C	l.	Primary O-ring is free from damage prior to installation	ADQ159
E	m.	Leak check port O-ring shelf life has not expired	ADQ103
E	n.	Primary O-ring shelf life has not expired	ADQ176
E	o.	Shelf life of the filtered grease has not been exceeded prior to use	LAA049
E	p.	Primary O-ring packaging has not been damaged or violated prior to installation	ADQ175
F	q.	Housing, Nozzle-Fixed forward end leak check port is free from fungus prior to installation of the RSRM Port Plug (closure screw)	ADQ097
F	r.	Housing, Nozzle-Fixed forward end leak check port is free from moisture prior to installation of the RSRM Port Plug (closure screw)	ADQ098
F	s.	Leak check port O-ring is free from moisture prior to mating with the RSRM Port Plug (closure screw)	ADQ101
F	t.	Leak check port O-ring is free from fungus prior to mating with the RSRM Port Plug (closure screw)	ADQ102
	u.	O-ring grooves in the Aft End Ring are free from fungus prior to assembly	ADQ168
F	v.	O-ring grooves in the Aft End Ring are free from moisture prior to assembly	ADQ170
I	w.	RSRM Port Plug (closure screw) is free from damage prior to installation	ADQ105
I	x.	Housing, Nozzle-Fixed forward end leak check port is free from damage prior to installation of the RSRM Port Plug (closure screw)	ADQ107
I	y.	O-ring grooves in Aft End Ring are free from damage prior to assembly	ADQ206
I	z.	Sealing surfaces on Housing, Nozzle-Fixed forward end are free from damage prior to assembly	ADQ207
J	aa.	Application of filtered grease to Housing, Nozzle-Fixed forward end sealing surfaces prior to assembly	ADQ015
J	ab.	Housing, Nozzle-Fixed forward end leak check port is free from corrosion and contamination prior to installation of the RSRM Port Plug (closure screw)	ADQ096
J	ac.	RSRM Port Plug (closure screw) is free from corrosion and contamination prior to installation	ADQ104
J	ad.	Sealing surfaces on Housing, Nozzle-Fixed forward end are free from corrosion and contamination prior to assembly	ADQ202
J	ae.	O-ring grooves in Aft End Ring are free from corrosion and contamination prior to assembly	ADQ208
J	af.	RSRM Port Plug (closure screw) packaging was not damaged or violated prior to installation	ADQ091
L	ag.	Proper initial installation of RSRM Port Plug (closure screw) prior to final torque	ADQ106
L	ah.	Final torque is properly performed during installation of RSRM Port Plug (closure screw)	ADQ263

4. For New Filtered Grease verify:

F,J	a.	Filtered grease is sent to storage capped and sealed (recapped and resealed)	LAA063
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5. For New Grease verify:

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E,F,J	a.	Material received in closed containers	ANO015
E,F,J	b.	Type	ANO050
E	c.	No shipping or handling damage	ANO058
J (T)	d.	Penetration	LAA037
J (T)	e.	Dropping point	ANO042
J (T)	f.	Zinc concentration	LAA038
6. For New RSRM Port Plug (closure screw) verify:			
G	a.	O-ring groove width dimension	AAO047
G	b.	O-ring groove surface finish	AAO037
G	c.	O-ring groove diameter dimension	AAO025
G	d.	Plug length	AAO063
G	e.	O-ring groove sealing surface blemishes	LAA270
N	f.	Correct thread form	AAO071
N	g.	Thread surface blemishes	LAA271
7. For New Aft End Ring verify:			
G	a.	O-ring groove depth	ADE044
G	b.	O-ring groove diameter	ADE046
G	c.	O-ring groove surface finish	ADE047,ADE048
G	d.	O-ring groove width	ADE054
8. For Refurbished Aft End Ring verify:			
G	a.	O-ring groove surface finish	ADE068
9. For New Housing, Nozzle-Fixed verify:			
G	a.	Surface finish	LAA139,LAA140
G,N	b.	Conformance of port to specification	ADV025
10. For Refurbished Housing, Nozzle Fixed verify:			
G	a.	Surface finish	ADV192
N	b.	Conformance of port to specification	ADV101
11. KSC verifies:			
E	a.	Life requirements for the expected launch schedule are met per OMRSD File II, Vol III, C00CA0.030	OMD019