

MINI

Quality Enhancement Procedure

Bulletin No. 0036450100	Issue Date 09/11/2006	Responsible Engineer Frank Sutton
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R53 W11 - Replace the wheel rims

Situation

As a consequence of very specific conditions, it has not been possible to rule out increased bubble formation near the spokes of the light-alloy cast rim.

Effect

As a result of a sporty driving style, the increased lateral forces may cause cracks to form in the spokes.

Vehicles Affected

R53 W11

According to VIN selection (start of series production - 06.07.2006).

Action

Replace light-alloy cast rims manufactured before 1st April 2006.

Please contact the customer as soon as possible to arrange for the work to be carried out.

[Click here for a sample customer letter](#)

Procedure

1. Checking the date of manufacture of the light-alloy cast rims.

On the inside of the light-alloy cast rim, there is a date on one of the spokes, made up of the year and month. Check the date on the light-alloy cast rims.

If the date is April 2006 or later (April, May, June, etc.), there is no problem with the cast rims.

The cast rims must only be replaced if the date stamp is prior to 1st April 2006.

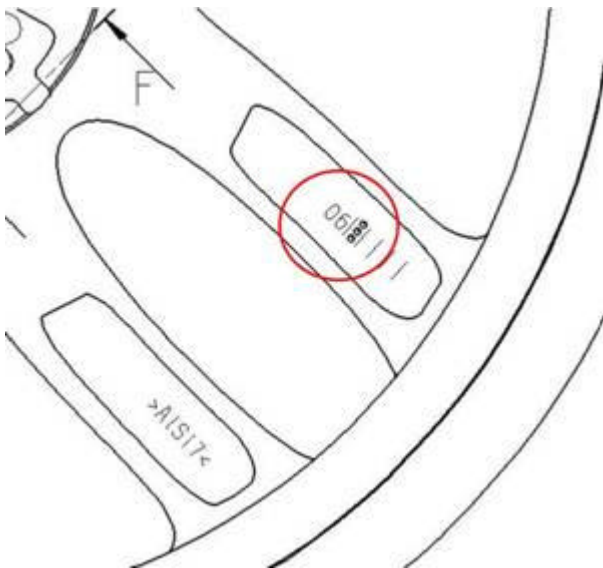
2. Identifying the date of manufacture.

A spoke bears the date of manufacture on the inside of the rim. The month of manufacture is represented by dots cast in superscript. These dots are located between two of the five lateral grooves on the spoke.



Example: " 06 | | " corresponds to the month of January in production year 2006.
 The production month of March would have three dots and April would have four dots.

Cast rims marked with three dots (production month of March) must be replaced. See the example below.



3. Replacing the light-alloy cast rims.

Replace light-alloy cast rims manufactured before 1st April 2006.

See the Repair Instructions:
 RA 36 10 300 "Remove and refit a front or rear wheel."
 RA 36 12 005 "Replace a tyre (run flat)."

4. Returning the replaced light-alloy cast rims.

Return the replaced light-alloy cast rims through the normal parts return process, marked clearly for the attention of Frank Sutton. Note : please ensure the chassis number of the vehicle is identified on each wheel rim.

Parts Required

<u>Part number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
36 11 6 774 581	Light-alloy cast rim	max. 4

36 12 1 116 326	42.5 mm tyre valve	4
	Balance weight	max. 8

Reimbursement

Claims are subject to current warranty terms.

Special Defect Code:

00 36 45 01 00

Job number:

Description:

Labour:

00 56 306	Check date inside all cast rims	5 AW's
00 56 307	Check date and replace one cast rim	9 AW's
00 56 308	Check date and replace two cast rims	16 AW's
00 56 309	Check date and replace three cast rims	23 AW's
00 56 310	Check date and replace four cast rims	29 AW's

Only one of the job numbers listed may be billed.

Draft letter to customer

Your MINI, vehicle identification number

Dear Mr/Ms (address personally),

Our records show that you are the owner of the MINI Cooper S with John Cooper Works GP kit referred to above.

Quality monitoring at BMW has revealed that the light-alloy cast rims of your vehicle may have a manufacturing defect. Consequently, there is a risk of cracks forming in the rims, which over the course of time could also lead to one or more of the spokes breaking. Critical driving situations cannot be ruled out in such cases.

To ensure that your vehicle is in perfect condition, we would like to check the date of manufacture of the light-alloy cast wheel rims on your vehicle and replace them if necessary.

You are therefore kindly requested to make an appointment in the near future with our Service Advisor, Mr ... (Tel. ...).

We will of course be pleased to have this appointment arranged at a time convenient to yourself.

It will take approximately 1/2 hour to check the light-alloy cast rims. This work will naturally be free of charge. If individual light-alloy cast rims need to be replaced, the work will take up to a maximum of 3 hours. The replacement of the light-alloy cast wheel rims will also be free of charge.

If you have already sold the above-mentioned vehicle, or the wheels fitted by the factory, could you please forward this letter to the new owner at your earliest convenience.

Many thanks for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

