

# SERVICE BULLETIN

DATE: 31 May 2005

SERVICE BULLETIN #246

**MODELS:** Westerbeke Gasoline Generators 5.0BCG, 5.0BCGA, 7.0BCGC, 7.0BCGD, 8.0BEG, 10.0BEG, 12.5BEG, 15.0BEG, 20.0BEG, 20.0BEGA, 25.0BEG and 25.0BEGA

**SUBJECT:** "ON" toggle switch PN#048261 (Metal Chrome Style)

## \*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT NOTICE \*\*\*\*\*

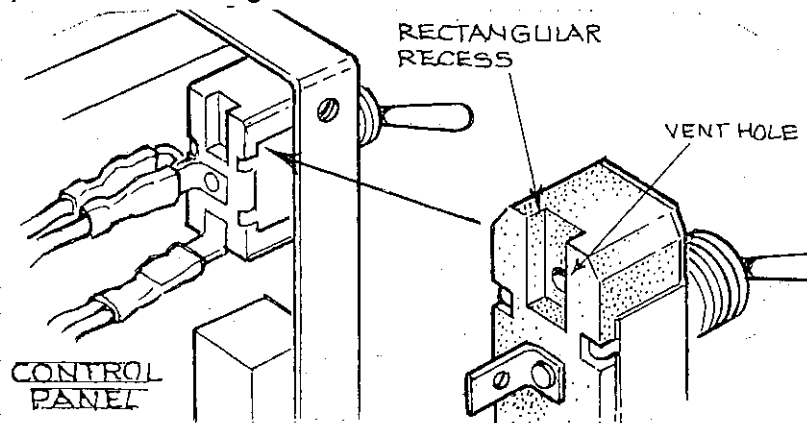
A potential spark hazard exists from the "ON" toggle switch (Metal Chrome Style) mounted in the generator's control panel. **Note: White plastic switches are not affected.**

The Westerbeke gasoline generator models listed above manufactured between June 2003 (manufacturing date code **E306**) through April 2005 (manufacturing date code **E504**) are affected. Also included are toggle switches PN#048261 that are in spare parts inventory.

The manufacturing date code is the four digit suffix of the engine serial number. The engine serial number can be found on the unit's identification plate that may be attached to the unit's exhaust manifold, generator housing, rocker cover or control box.

There is a ventilating hole in a rectangular recess of the switch (shown in the illustration below) that must be sealed to prevent the possibility of a spark exiting the switch housing.

Follow the steps below to seal this opening. It is not necessary to remove the toggle switch to perform this sealing.



\*\* Wipe clean the surface area of the recess that the vent hole is located in.

\*\* Gently apply the sealant provided (Dow Corning RTV multi-purpose sealant 732) or equivalent into the recess to fill it. Avoid pushing sealant into the vent hole. **If sealant is pushed into the vent hole it can make the switch inoperative.** Let the sealant dry thoroughly before using the generator.

Contact Joe Joyce or Bob Bisanti at Westerbeke Corporation if you have any questions. (508) 823-7677.



WESTERBEKE CORPORATION • TEL. 1-508-823-7677  
MYLES STANDISH INDUSTRIAL PARK,  
150 JOHN HANCOCK ROAD, TAUNTON, MA 02780-7319



June 10, 2005

**RE: PRODUCT RECALL: Westerbeke Generators 5.0 BCG, 5.0 BCGA, 7.0 BCGC, 7.0 BCGD, 8.0 BEG, 10.0 BEG, 12.5 BEG, 15.0 BEG, 20.0 BEG, 20.0 BEGA, 25.0 BEG and 25.0 BEGA**

Dear Boat Owner:

Please read this letter carefully because it concerns a product you have purchased which needs to be modified in order to meet applicable Coast Guard safety standards.

Our records indicate that you have purchased a Westerbeke generator or vessel containing one of the Westerbeke gasoline powered generators listed above. Westerbeke has recently learned that these generators contain a toggle switch, (the "ON" switch) (**Metal Chrome Style**), located within the control box, which fails an ignition protection test required by Coast Guard regulations. **Note: White plastic switches are not affected.** This test is designed to minimize the danger of igniting flammable gases within the engine compartment or other enclosed areas of a vessel. A simple modification that can easily be performed to the "ON" toggle switch will correct the deficiency. Westerbeke has corrected this problem on all generators shipped after May 5, 2005.

While there have been no reported safety incidents with the product, Westerbeke is urging its customers to stop using their generators until the problem has been corrected. Enclosed please find an unlabeled tube of RTV sealant and detailed instructions for you to perform this simple repair yourself. Or, if you prefer, you may contact Westerbeke to arrange for an authorized mechanic to perform the repair quickly and at no cost to you. You should be aware that it is a violation of the federal law for you to continue to use this product with knowledge that it fails to conform to Coast Guard safety standards. See 46 U.S.C. §4307.

Please read on so that you understand the background of our concern about the product and the details of the repair program.

Since its founding over 60 years ago, Westerbeke's primary objective has been to provide its customers with products of the highest durability, quality and safety. Our products have been developed and manufactured in an effort to offer merchandise to you which will result in the utmost satisfaction. To that end, our products sometimes include parts produced by other reputable manufacturers, including the toggle switch of your Westerbeke generator.

WESTERBEKE CORPORATION

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Please complete and return the enclosed card to notify us that (1) you have repaired the switch yourself; or (2) you would like Westerbeke to make arrangements to have the problem corrected. If you choose to make the repair yourself, we will send you a free thank you gift.

Of course, if you have sold or given away your generator, please either refer this letter to the new owner or contact us with the name and address of the new owner so that this safety message and recall notice will be forwarded to the new owner's attention.

We regret any inconvenience this might cause you, but your safety is our most important concern.

Sincerely,

Joe Joyce  
Customer Service Manager  
Westerbeke Corporation