

U.S.C.G. Merchant Marine Exam  
Assistant Engineer, Limited  
Q610 Motor Plants  
(Sample Examination)

**Choose the best answer to the following Multiple Choice Questions.**

1. (2.3.1.3-2) Which segment of the two-stroke cycle engine diagram shown in the illustration represents the exhaust event? Illustration MO-0037
- (A) I
  - (B) II
  - (C) III
  - (D) IV

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

2. (2.3.13.3-1) Which of the air intake systems listed will result in the lowest specific fuel consumption?
- (A) Natural aspiration
  - (B) Turbocharged
  - (C) Roots blower
  - (D) Piston blower

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

3. (2.3.21.1-7) The PRIMARY function of a waste heat boiler is to \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) reduce engine exhaust noise
  - (B) reduce engine back pressure
  - (C) recover heat which otherwise would be lost
  - (D) increase turbocharger efficiency

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

4. (2.3.12.1-3) In the illustration shown, under what conditions would valves "2" and "3" be closed and valve "6" be opened? Illustration MO-0077
- (A) When the HFO centrifuges are being run as separators and clarifiers respectively.
  - (B) When the HFO purifier is being run as the DO purifier.
  - (C) When the DO purifier is being run as the HFO purifier.
  - (D) When the HFO purifiers are being run in parallel.

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

5. (2.3.7.1-1) Starting a large low-speed propulsion diesel engine on diesel fuel during cold weather conditions will be made easier by \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) increasing the quantity of starting air
  - (B) increasing the lube oil pressure
  - (C) heating the engine fuel supply
  - (D) heating the engine coolant

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

6. In comparison to exhaust valves, intake valves of diesel engines may be fabricated from low-alloy steels because \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) the beveled edges of the intake valves provide for self-centering during seating
  - (B) intake valves utilize stellite-coated valve seat inserts which reduce wear
  - (C) the effective volume of air passing through intake valves is less than the effective volume of air passing through exhaust valves
  - (D) intake valves are less affected by the corrosive action of exhaust gases

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

7. An individual fuel injection pump is designed for variable beginning and constant ending of injection. For diesel engines operating a generator at constant speeds, the start of injection will \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) advance as the load increases
  - (B) retard as the load increases
  - (C) remain unchanged regardless of load
  - (D) always occur at top dead center

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

8. On the indicator card shown in the illustration, lines "A" and "B" indicate \_\_\_\_\_. Illustration MO-0108
- (A) top dead center
  - (B) bottom dead center
  - (C) the end of injection
  - (D) the end of ignition

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

9. Lube oil pumps taking suction from the sump of most small marine engines are usually \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) diaphragm type
  - (B) centrifugal type
  - (C) positive displacement type
  - (D) eductor type

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

10. Which of the fuel nozzles listed requires the LEAST maintenance?
- (A) Pintle
  - (B) Single hole
  - (C) Multi-hole
  - (D) Open

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**11.** Which of the tanks, shown in the illustration, supplies fuel to the emergency generator? Illustration MO-0058

- (A) Light fuel oil service tank
- (B) Light fuel oil settling tank
- (C) Light fuel oil boiler tank
- (D) Light fuel oil booster tank

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**12.** To minimize corrosion, fuel oil strainer disks, spacers and scraper blades are made of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) brass
- (B) copper
- (C) iron
- (D) monel metal or stainless steel

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**13.** Starting aids such as glow plugs are installed on \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) large, direct drive diesel engines
- (B) diesel engines designed to burn residual fuels
- (C) medium-speed, four-stroke cycle diesel engines
- (D) small diesel engines utilizing electric starting equipment

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**14.** What is the function of component "13" shown in the illustration? Illustration MO-0122

- (A) The inlet jumper directs cooling water to the cylinder liner.
- (B) The device delivers the oil for piston cooling, in addition to liner lubrication.
- (C) The water pipe is the mechanism in which the "shaker" method of piston cooling is accomplished.
- (D) The sample tube monitors the cylinder for evidence of piston blow-by.

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**15.** Which of the following should always be checked prior to starting a diesel engine?

- (A) Air filters
- (B) Fuel oil strainers
- (C) Crankcase oil level
- (D) Pyrometer readings

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**16.** Which of the terms listed below represents the operational speed at which excessive engine vibration is created?

- (A) Non-harmonic speed.
- (B) Critical speed.
- (C) Maximum speed.
- (D) Design maximum speed.

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**17.** A three-way thermostatic control valve regulates the diesel engine cooling water temperature by passing a portion of the water \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) around the cooler
- (B) around the engine
- (C) overboard
- (D) to the expansion tank

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**18.** A multi-orifice fuel injection nozzle is usually used with which of the listed types of combustion chamber?

- (A) Open combustion chamber
- (B) Precombustion chamber
- (C) Turbulence chamber
- (D) Energy cell

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**19.** Why will a turbocharged diesel engine produce black smoke if excessive additional load is applied too quickly?

- (A) Exhaust energy would draw excess air.
- (B) The inertia of the turbocharger rotor causes a time lag which delays the turbocharger speed increase.
- (C) Exhaust gas pumping losses are increased due to turbine windage.
- (D) Exhaust gas back pressure falls slightly due to increased nozzle action.

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**20.** When a nozzle tester is used to check the spray pattern of a diesel fuel injection nozzle, which of the following statements is true?

- (A) The valve should normally begin to open at 1/2 the popping pressure
- (B) The needle valve spring should always be removed first before testing
- (C) The needle valve should remain open after the nozzle pops open
- (D) A serious hazard of blood poisoning exists if the fuel spray penetrates the skin of the operator

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**21.** A diesel engine experiences a sudden loss in speed, accompanied by black exhaust smoke, with the fuel rack at maximum, and the speed remaining below normal. The probable cause is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) engine overload
- (B) leaky valves
- (C) stuck or broken piston rings
- (D) low air injection pressure

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**22.** Which of the following test indicators should be considered the most significant factor in determining as to whether or not a diesel-generator's lube oil should be drained and renewed?

- (A) An extremely high neutralization number.
- (B) An extremely low precipitation number.
- (C) The oil appears black in color.
- (D) An increase in flash point.

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**23.** What type of bearing is shown in the illustration? Illustration MO-0120

- (A) Axial/radial bearing
- (B) Collar bearing
- (C) Kingsbury thrust bearing
- (D) Michell bearing

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**24.** Small amounts of moisture are necessary to trigger the growth of microbiological organisms found in some marine fuels. Some sources of water contamination are \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) tank surface leakage
- (B) improper tank washing procedures
- (C) humidity and condensation
- (D) all of the above

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**25.** (2.3.1.2-2) The pressure-volume diagrams illustrated are of four internal combustion engine cycles. Which one represents the theoretical diesel cycle? Illustration MO-0102

- (A) A
- (B) B
- (C) C
- (D) D

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**26.** The device shown in the illustration is classified as a/an \_\_\_\_\_. Illustration MO-0008

- (A) comparator type mist detector
- (B) exhaust gas vapor condenser
- (C) Ringelmann exhaust gas analyzer
- (D) reflective type explosion meter

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**27.** An increase in the air inlet manifold pressure of a diesel engine will result in a/an \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) decrease in maximum cylinder pressure
- (B) increase in ignition lag
- (C) decrease in fuel consumption per horsepower-hour
- (D) decrease in exhaust manifold pressure

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**28.** Hydraulic couplings will transmit torque equal to the input torque by means of energy changes in a rotating vortex of liquid. For the vortices to form there must be \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) slip between the impeller and runner
- (B) less than 2 percent slip between the impeller and runner
- (C) axial thrust generated by the runner pinion shaft
- (D) momentary torsional vibration transmitted by the driving impeller

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**29.** The greatest difference between the centrifuge bowl shown in the illustration and that of a tubular bowl, with straight, vertical, interior surfaces, is that the illustrated unit \_\_\_\_\_. Illustration MO-0012

- (A) is self-desludging
- (B) rotates at 1000 rpm higher than the old tubular bowl type
- (C) rotates at 1000 rpm slower than the old tubular bowl type
- (D) does not require a discharge ring when operated as a separator

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**30.** In the starting process of a diesel engine, the main object is to attain the compression conditions sufficient to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) turn the flywheel
- (B) reduce friction
- (C) overcome inertia
- (D) ignite the fuel

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**31.** The diesel engine wrist pin in the illustration is indicated by the component labeled \_\_\_\_\_.  
Illustration MO-0122

- (A) "7"
- (B) "17"
- (C) "G"
- (D) "S"

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**32.** Load control on a diesel engine is accomplished by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) regulating the speed of the turbocharger
- (B) regulating the amount of fuel admitted to the engine
- (C) regulating the speed of the fuel oil transfer pump
- (D) changing engine timing

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**33.** Diesel engine cylinder head test cocks are used to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) check cylinder lubrication
- (B) connect the pressure indicator
- (C) pressure test cylinder heads
- (D) connect the exhaust gas pyrometers

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**34.** The use of push rods becomes necessary in a diesel engine when \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) the camshaft is located some distance below the valve gear
- (B) the rocker arms are pivoted near their centers
- (C) two or more valves must be opened and closed at the same time
- (D) hydraulic valve lash adjusters are used

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**35.** White smoke issuing from the exhaust of an auxiliary diesel engine could mean \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) the engine is overloaded
- (B) the engine is cold
- (C) there is too much lube oil in the cylinders
- (D) the turbocharger is fouled

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**36.** The device used to limit engine torque at various engine speeds is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) speed limiting governor
- (B) variable speed governor
- (C) constant speed governor
- (D) load limiting governor

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**37.** In the reversing reduction gear shown in the illustration, the forward and reverse main pinions are in constant mesh with the main gear. This means the \_\_\_\_\_. Illustration MO-0085

- (A) synchromesh coupling will maintain transition torque control
- (B) set that is clutched in will rotate as idlers driven from the main gear
- (C) idling gears rotate in a direction opposite to their rotation when carrying load
- (D) clutches are engaged by a reduction in control air pressure

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**38.** The water inlet manifold for the diesel engine shown in the illustration is represented by the letter or number \_\_\_\_\_. Illustration MO-0122

- (A) "M"
- (B) "N"
- (C) "W"
- (D) "13"

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**39.** The principal characteristic of an isochronous governor is it will \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) slow the machine down as the load is increased
- (B) shut down the engine if it over speeds
- (C) display excessive speed droop
- (D) maintain a constant speed with variations of load

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**40.** Hydraulic starters are installed on many lifeboat diesel engines instead of comparable air start systems, because \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) hydraulic starters are the least expensive of all starting systems
- (B) the system does not require high-pressure piping
- (C) hydraulic systems turn diesel engines at higher rates of speed than air starters
- (D) the system can be manually recharged

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**41.** Fusible plugs are installed in fire-tube boilers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) provide a means of draining the boiler
- (B) warn the engineer of low water level
- (C) cool the crown sheet at high firing rates
- (D) open the burners' electrical firing circuits

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**42.** The time between injection and ignition of the fuel is known as \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) turbulence lag
- (B) afterburning ratio
- (C) injection lag
- (D) ignition delay

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**43.** The amount of fuel delivered by a unit injector is controlled by the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) camshaft
- (B) main spring
- (C) rack position
- (D) engine speed

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**44.** Excessive alkalinity of the water in an auxiliary boiler can cause \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) caustic embrittlement of the boiler metal
- (B) acidic corrosion of the boiler metal
- (C) hard scale deposits on the boiler tubes
- (D) etching of the heat exchange surfaces

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**45.** Connecting rods in a diesel engine are used to connect the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) crankshaft to the gear train
- (B) piston to the crankshaft
- (C) engine to the bed
- (D) rocker arm to the camshaft

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**46.** One method of constructing large marine diesel engines and reducing the total engine frame weight is through \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) casting interlocking components
- (B) welding plates to form sections for assembly
- (C) forging integral components
- (D) case hardening integral components

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**47.** Which of the following statements is correct regarding a turbocharged four-stroke cycle diesel-generator?

- (A) At zero load the intake manifold pressure is greater than the exhaust manifold pressure.
- (B) At full load the intake manifold pressure and exhaust manifold pressure are equal.
- (C) At full load the intake manifold pressure is less than the exhaust manifold pressure.
- (D) At full load the intake manifold pressure is greater than the exhaust manifold pressure.

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**48.** A magnetic strainer is primarily used in diesel engine reduction gear oil systems to remove small particles of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) copper
- (B) Babbitt
- (C) ferrous materials
- (D) acidic materials

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**49.** One of the factors limiting the amount of load which can be put on a modern marine diesel engine is the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) governor sensitivity
- (B) exhaust temperature
- (C) fuel injection pressure
- (D) speed of the camshaft

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**50.** In a Roots-type rotary blower, the volume of air delivered is directly proportional to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) engine speed
- (B) engine load
- (C) brake horsepower
- (D) brake specific fuel consumption

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**51.** The replacement piping for diesel engine high-pressure fuel systems must be the same length and diameter as the original piping to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) avoid unnecessary parts inventory
- (B) keep torsional vibration constant
- (C) use existing supports and braces
- (D) maintain specified injection characteristics

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**52.** Compared to other fuel injection systems, unit injectors operate with virtually no \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) injection lag
- (B) ignition delay
- (C) moving parts
- (D) requirement for timing adjustments

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**53.** What is the function of the after coolers installed in the diesel engine air intake system?

- (A) Decrease the air density
- (B) Increase the exhaust temperature
- (C) Decrease the lube oil temperature
- (D) Increase the air density

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**54.** The diesel engine shown in the illustration is a \_\_\_\_\_. Illustration MO-0007

- (A) four-stroke cycle engine at the end of the compression stroke
- (B) two-stroke cycle engine at the end of the compression stroke
- (C) four-stroke cycle engine at the end of the exhaust stroke
- (D) two-stroke cycle engine at the beginning of the power stroke

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**55.** Which of the following statements is true concerning the cetane number of diesel fuel?

- (A) The cetane number affects the amount of injection lag.
- (B) The cetane number is an indication of the fuel's viscosity.
- (C) Ignition lag is reduced with fuels having a high cetane number.
- (D) The cetane number is of little significance in the combustion process.

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**56.** The power consumed during the scavenging process of a diesel engine is known as the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) compression loss
- (B) valve loss
- (C) back pressure loss
- (D) pumping loss

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**57.** In a direct cylinder admission air starting system, once the engine begins to fire, the air starting check valve illustrated, is closed by \_\_\_\_\_ . Illustration MO-0107

- (A) the starting air pressure
- (B) the spring force and cylinder pressure
- (C) a valve actuating cam
- (D) a pneumatic bellows assembly

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**58.** Fuel injection systems are designed to primarily meter fuel, atomize fuel, and \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) create turbulence in the combustion chamber
- (B) aid in completing cylinder scavenging
- (C) inject fuel at the proper time
- (D) minimize fuel penetration into the cylinder

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**59.** As shown in the illustration, the function of the component labeled "G" would be to \_\_\_\_\_. Illustration MO-0128

- (A) provide a source of circulating water into the waste heat boiler
- (B) condense steam exhaust from the turbo-generator
- (C) provide a source of fuel for the fuel oil service system
- (D) provide a reservoir of feed water for the boiler feed pump

*If choice D is selected set score to 1.*

**60.** The rate of pressure rise during the period following fuel ignition in a diesel engine is influenced by the length of the ignition delay period and the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) valve overlap
- (B) volumetric efficiency
- (C) turbulence of the air charge
- (D) fuel efficiency

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**61.** Component "U" of the diesel engine shown in the illustration is called the \_\_\_\_\_. Illustration MO-0122

- (A) frequency tuner
- (B) crankshaft counterweight
- (C) frame stiffener
- (D) main bearing support assembly

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**62.** Fuel droplets injected into a diesel engine cylinder must have adequate penetration to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) prolong the ignition delay period
- (B) ensure the beginning of fuel injection
- (C) thoroughly utilize the air charge
- (D) allow controlled fuel combustion

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**63.** A characteristic of a bearing material which permits small dirt particles to become embedded in the bearing surface is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) desirable, as it will minimize damage to the journal surface
- (B) desirable, as it will assist in keeping the lube oil filters clean
- (C) undesirable, since the embedded particles will score the journal
- (D) undesirable, since the particles will interfere with lube oil flow

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**64.** Which of the listed substances can be satisfactorily removed from diesel fuel by centrifuging?

- (A) Sludge
- (B) Gasoline
- (C) Fuel oil
- (D) Lube oil

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**65.** As the load is being decreased on the engine controlled by the governor shown in the illustration, the \_\_\_\_\_ . Illustration MO-0092

- (A) right hand end of the floating lever will move up
- (B) speeder rod will move down
- (C) pilot valve plunger will move down
- (D) oil pressure under the power piston will increase

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**66.** A main propulsion diesel engine is normally shutdown by \_\_\_\_\_ .

- (A) shutting off the air supply
- (B) over speeding the engine
- (C) securing the fuel supply
- (D) securing the ignition system

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**67.** Which of the listed conditions could result in the failure of an auxiliary diesel engine to stop running when a normal shutdown is attempted?

- (A) Supplying high temperature inlet air.
- (B) Maintaining a high exhaust back pressure.
- (C) Lube oil entering in the air intake manifold.
- (D) Carbon buildup on the over speed pawl.

*If choice C is selected set score to 1.*

**68.** A water jacket is placed around the exhaust manifolds of propulsion diesel engines to \_\_\_\_\_ .

- (A) reduce heat radiation to the engine room
- (B) aid in preventing turbocharger overheating
- (C) condense and drain moisture from exhaust gases
- (D) dampen exhaust gas pulsations in the manifold

*If choice A is selected set score to 1.*

**69.** Auxiliary boilers are divided into several classifications, one of which is \_\_\_\_\_ .

- (A) water-tube supercritical circulation
- (B) water-tube forced circulation
- (C) fire-tube controlled circulation
- (D) fire-tube express circulation

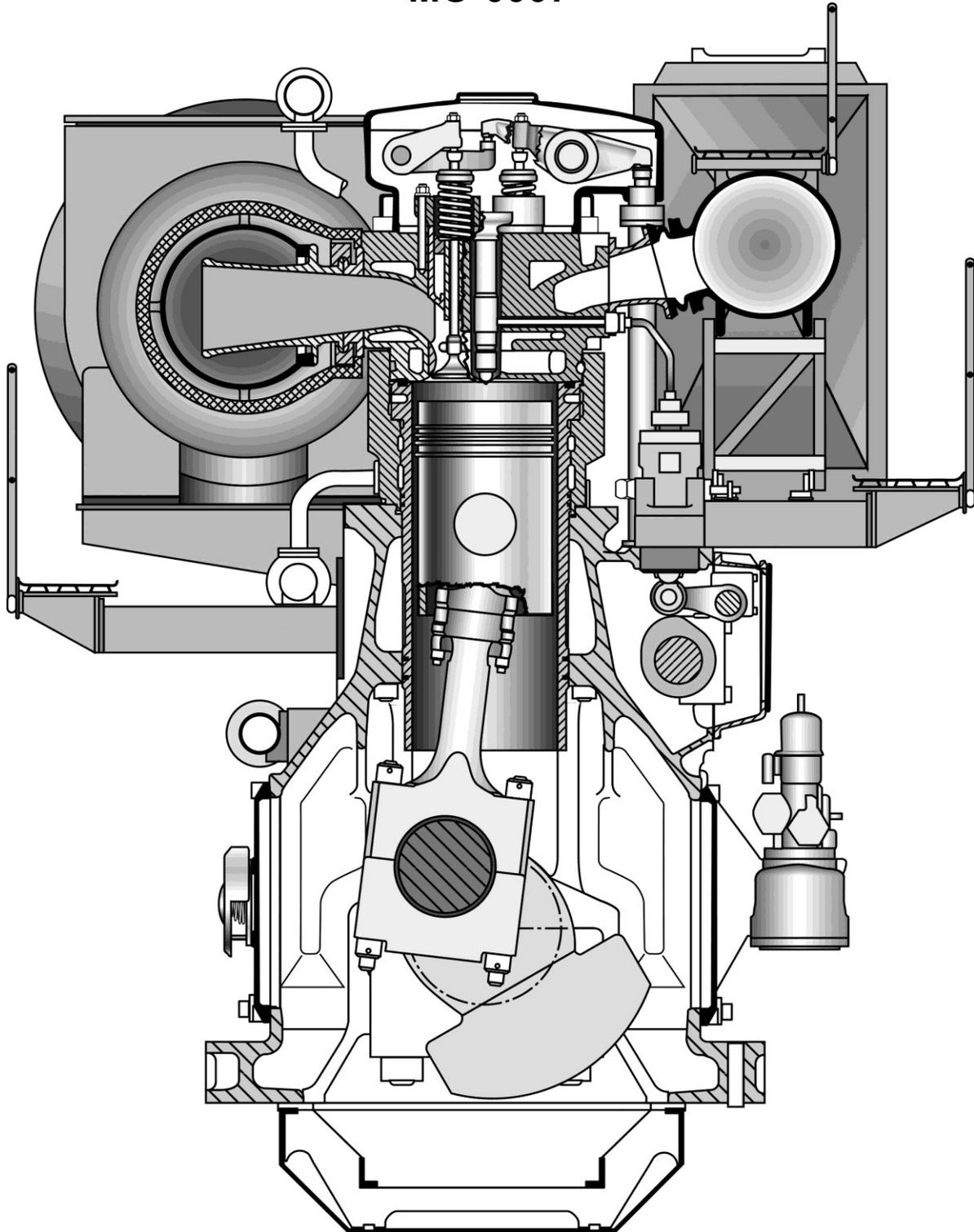
*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

**70.** (2.3.24.8-2) The service life of a worn aluminum piston for an auxiliary diesel, for which no spares are readily available, can be extended by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) turning down the piston skirt to concentric values
- (B) knurling the piston skirt surface
- (C) building up the piston skirt with a liquid epoxy material and then remachining
- (D) increasing the dimensions of the ring land grooves

*If choice B is selected set score to 1.*

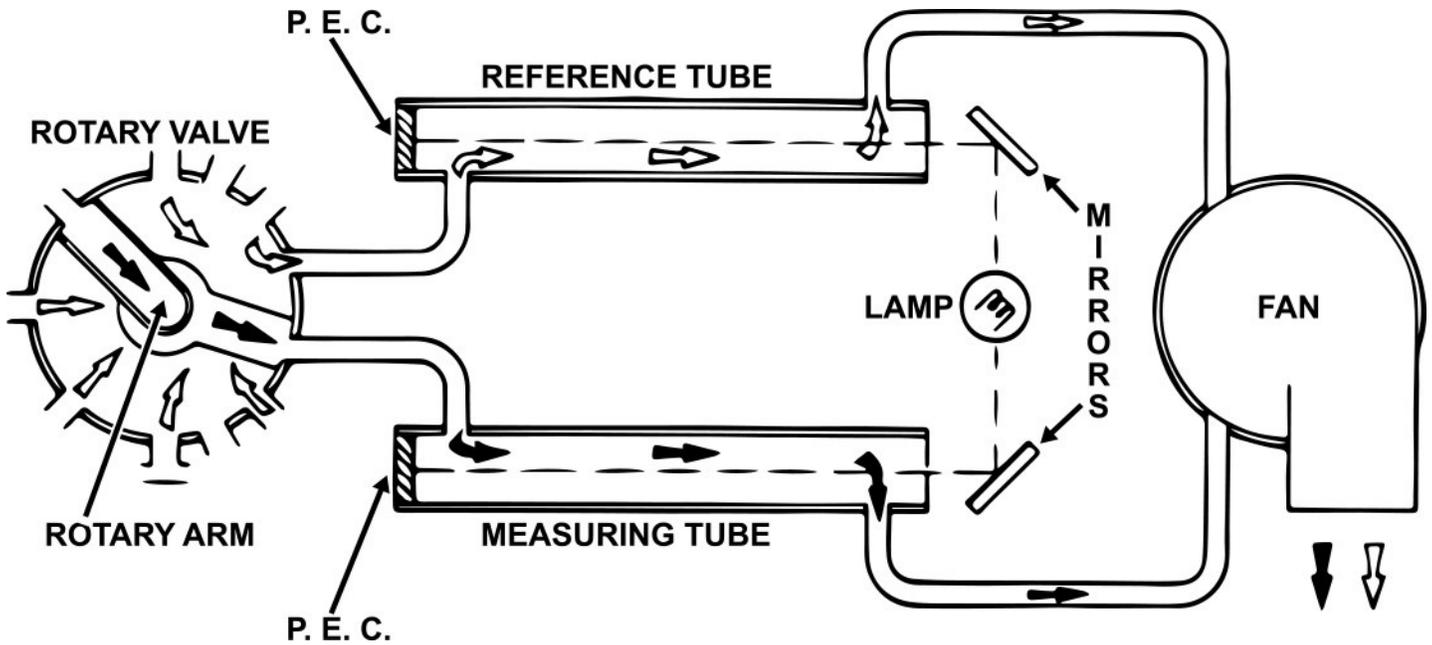
## MO-0007

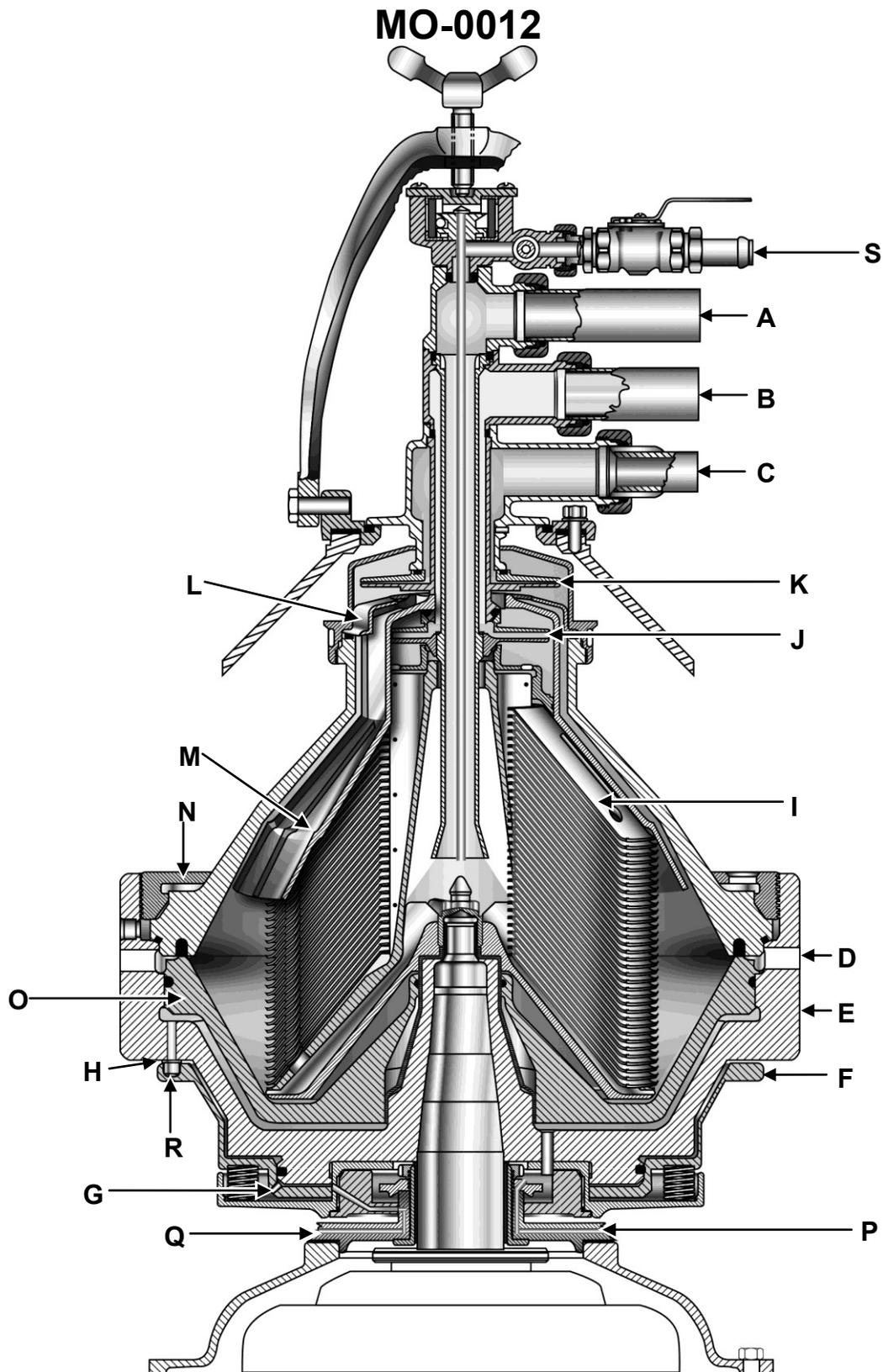


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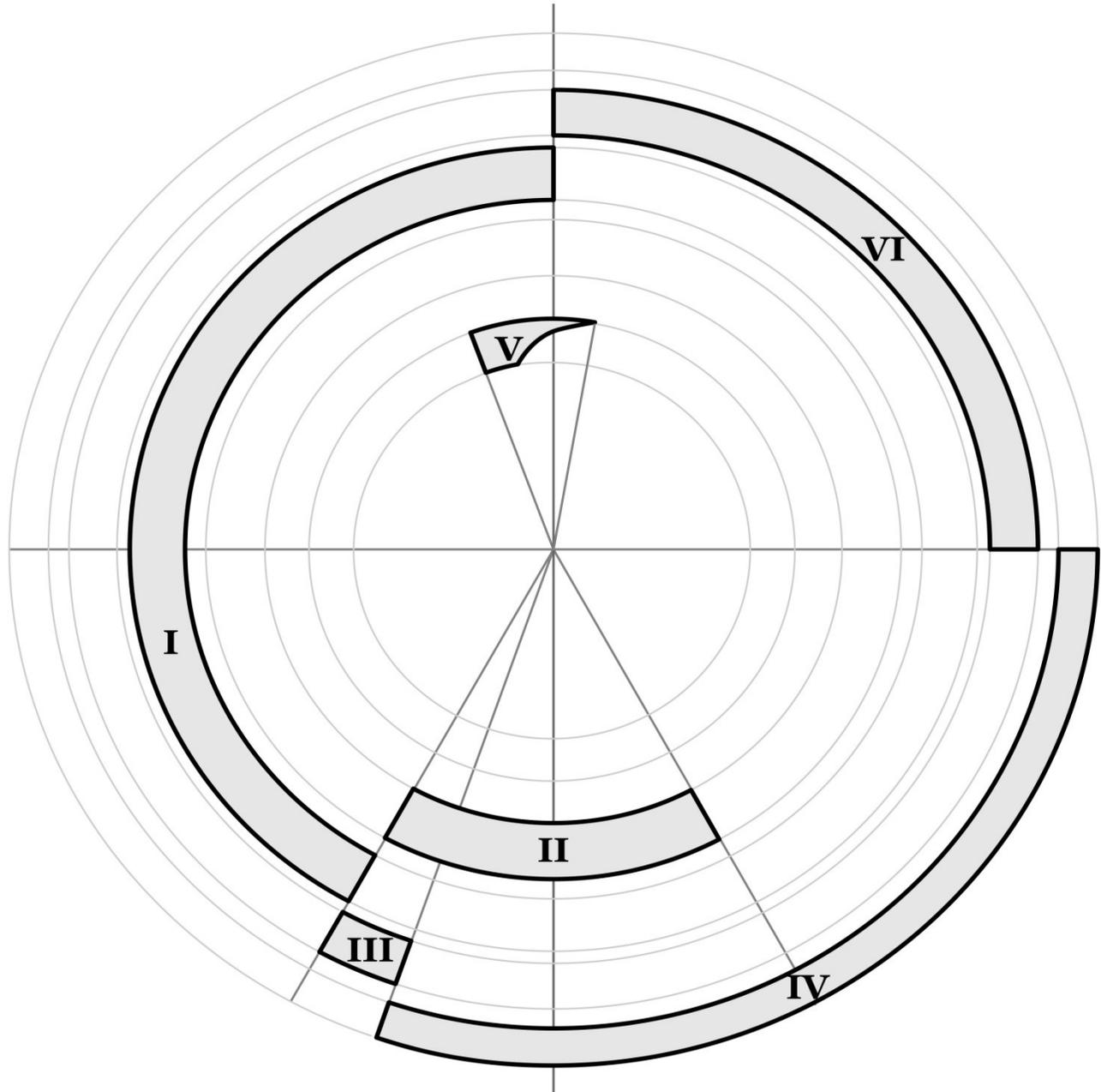
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## MO-0008





## MO-0037

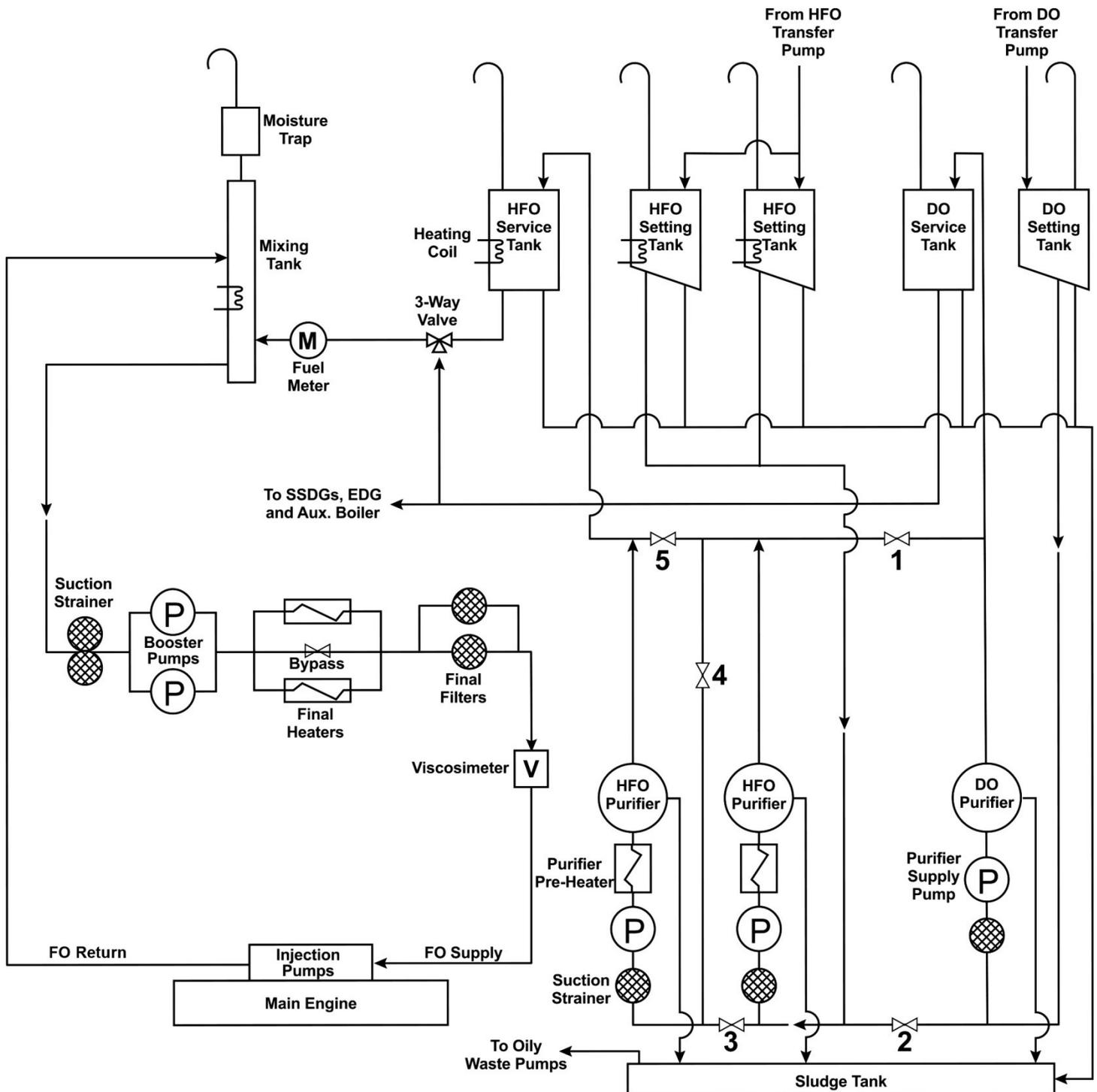


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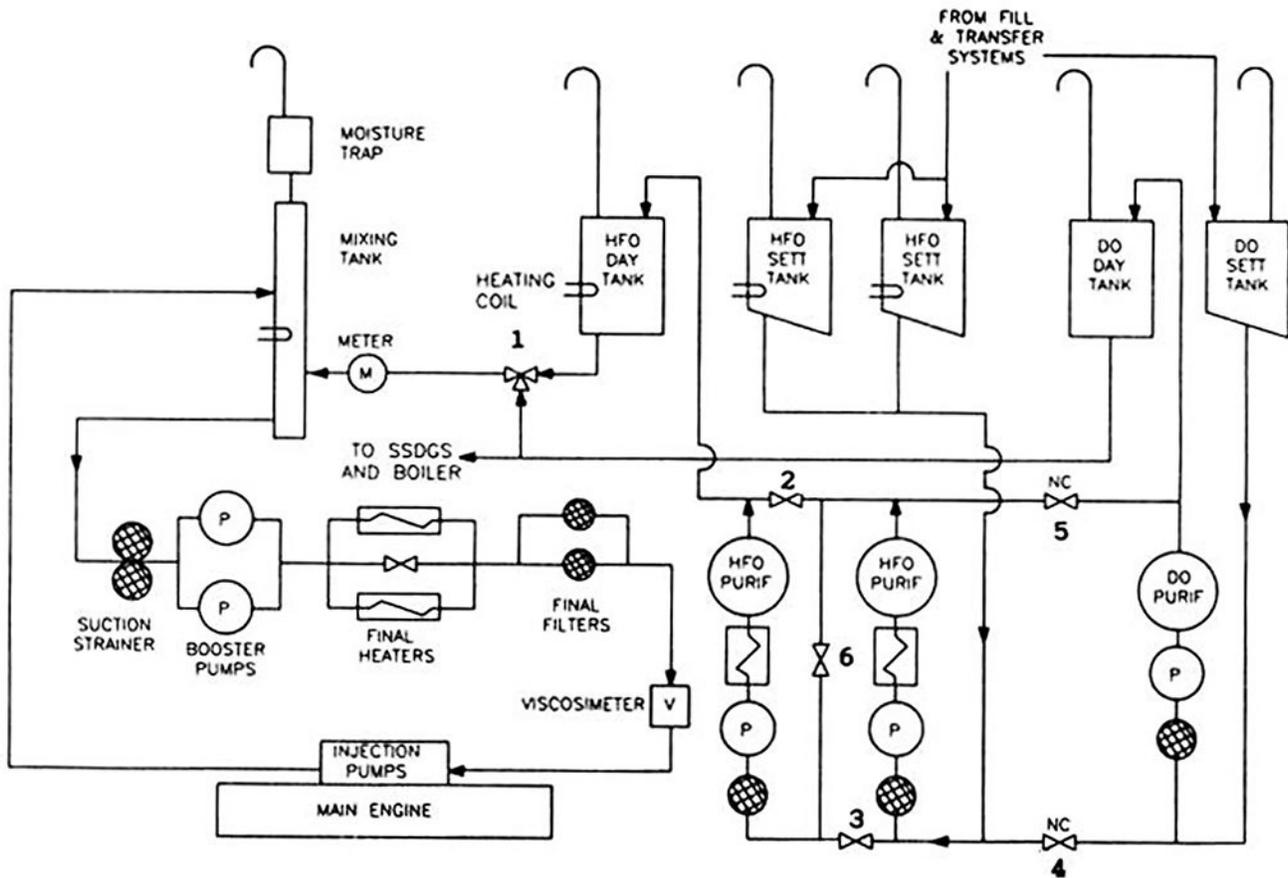
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## MO-0058



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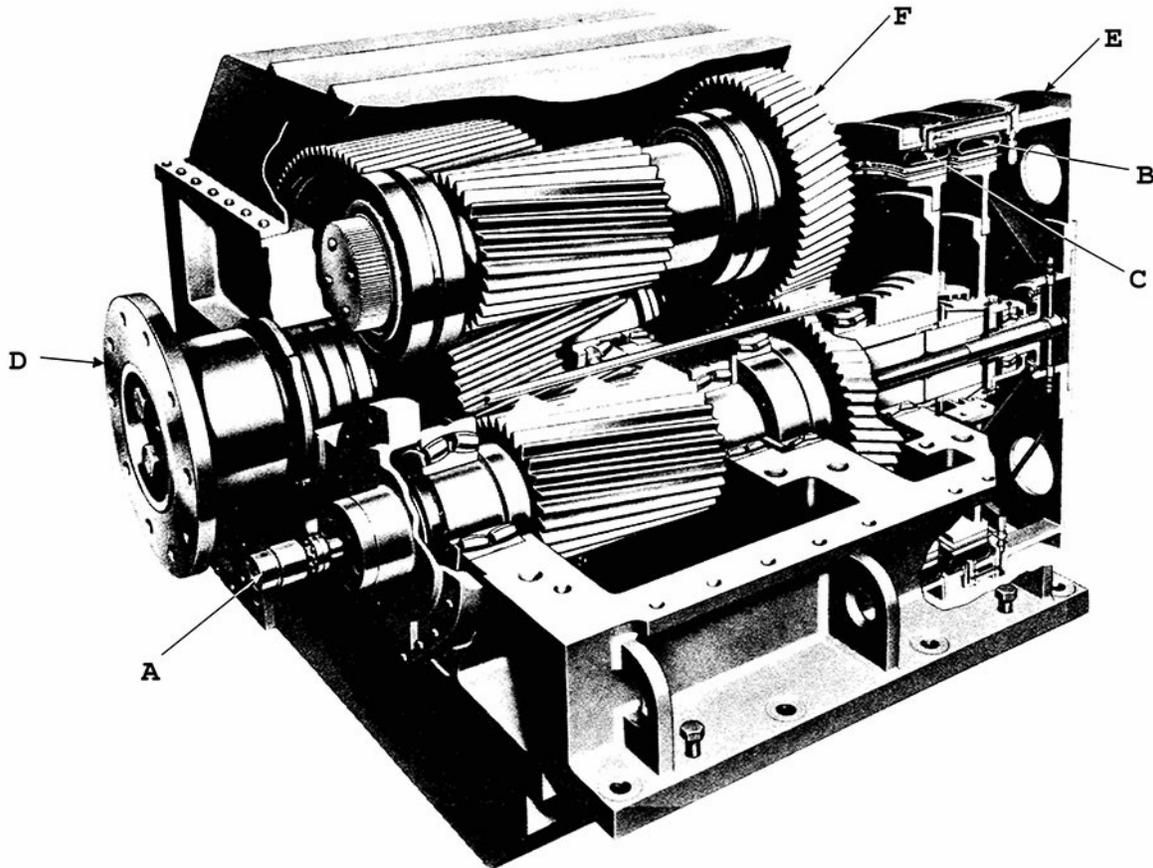
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## MO-0085



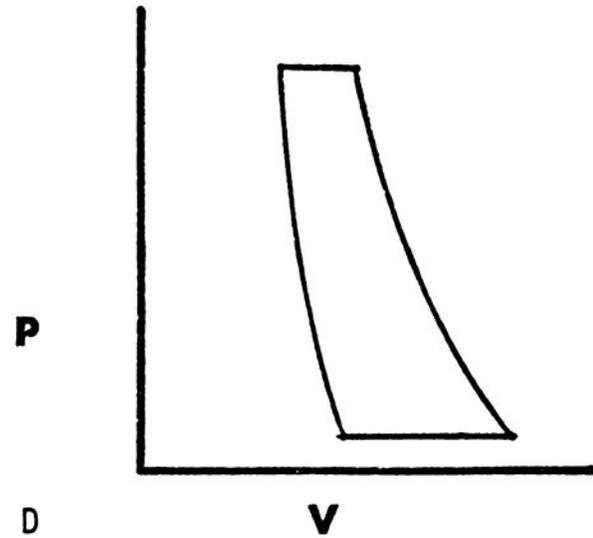
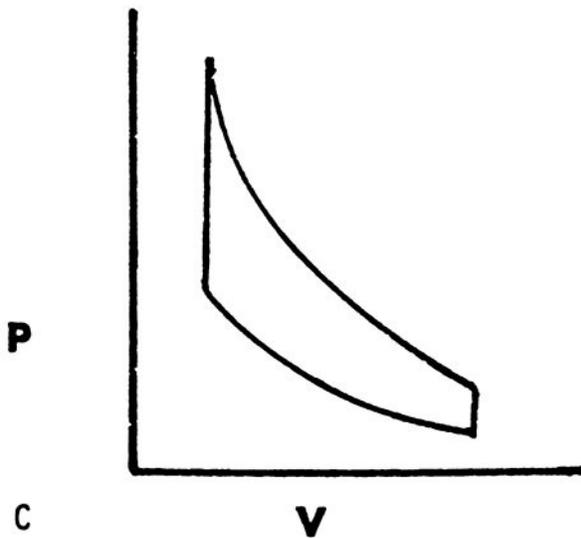
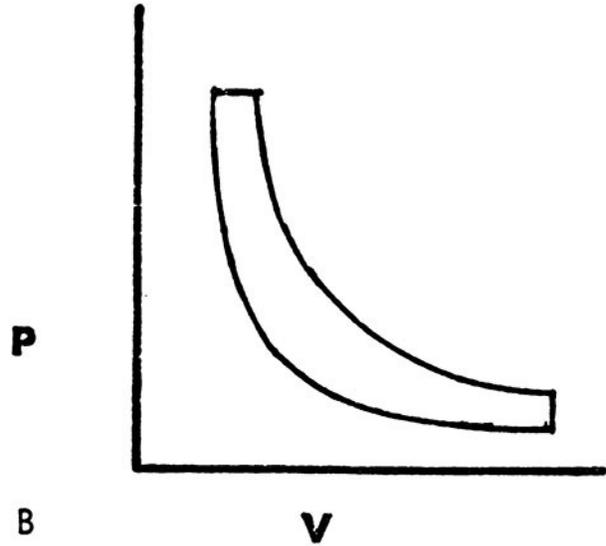
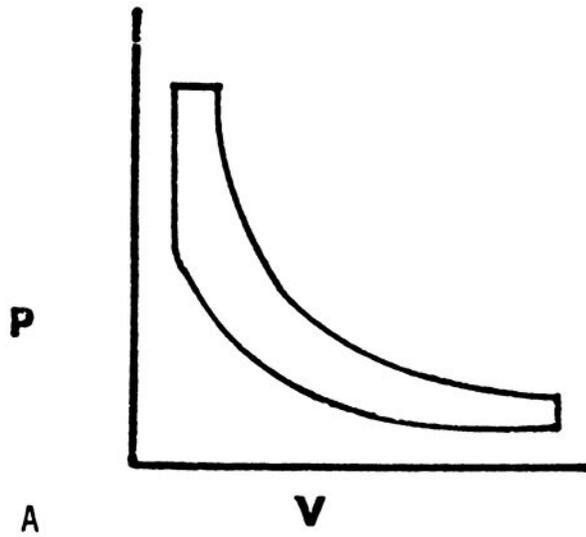
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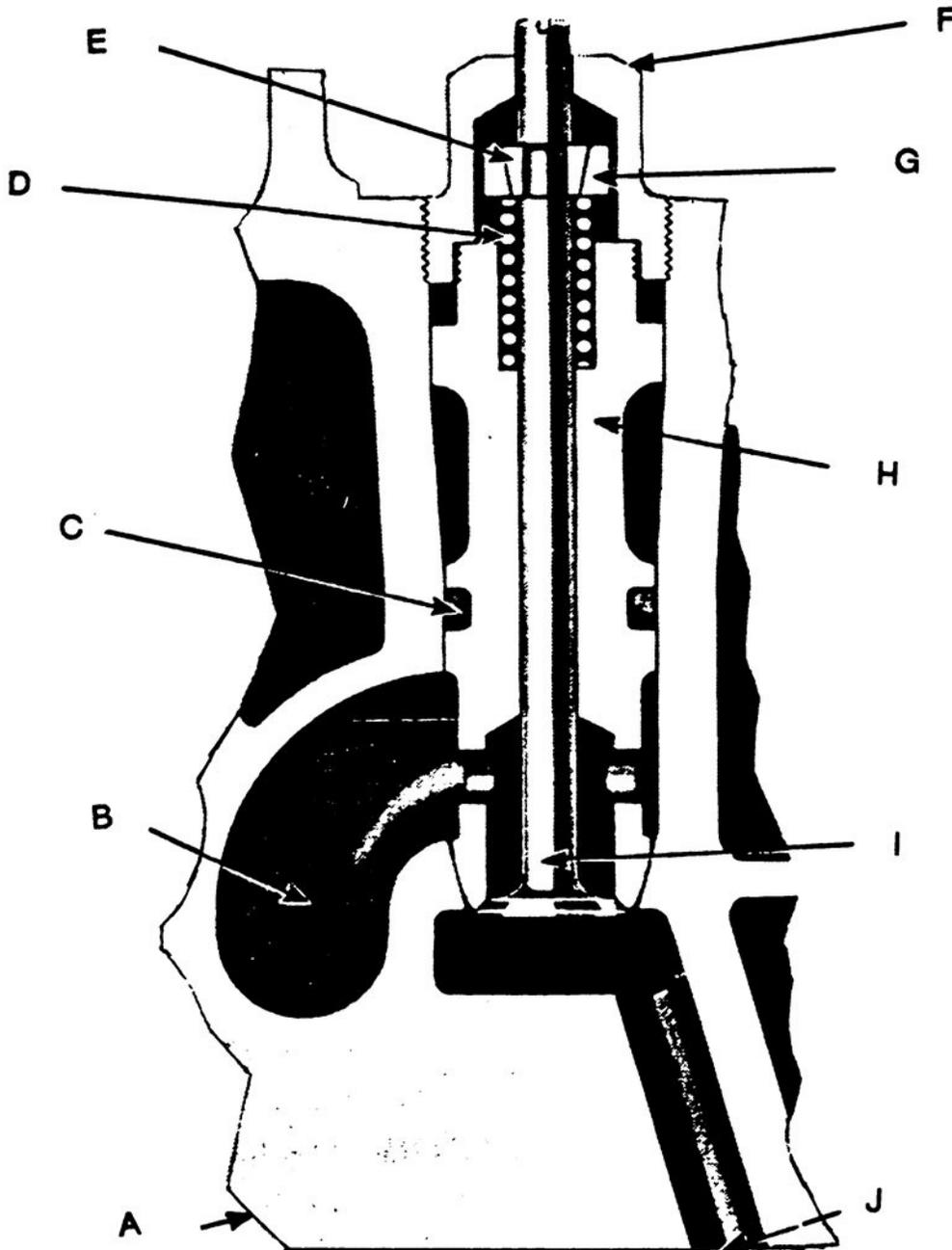
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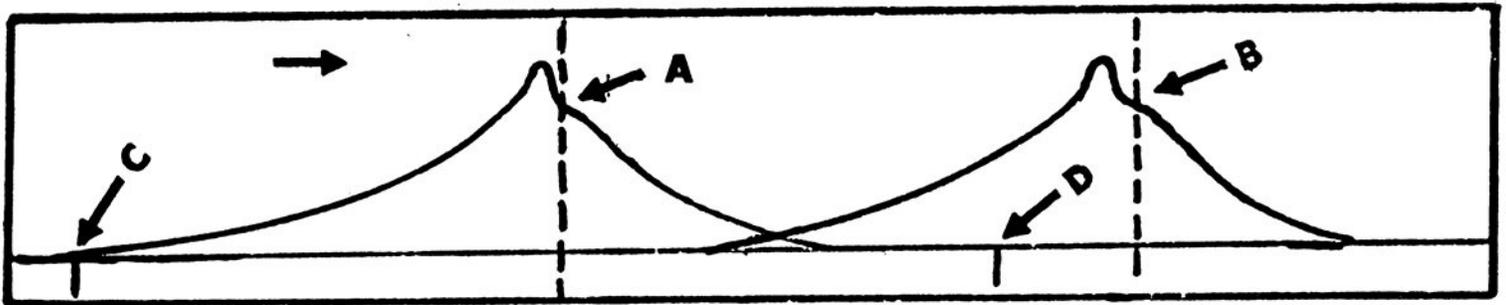
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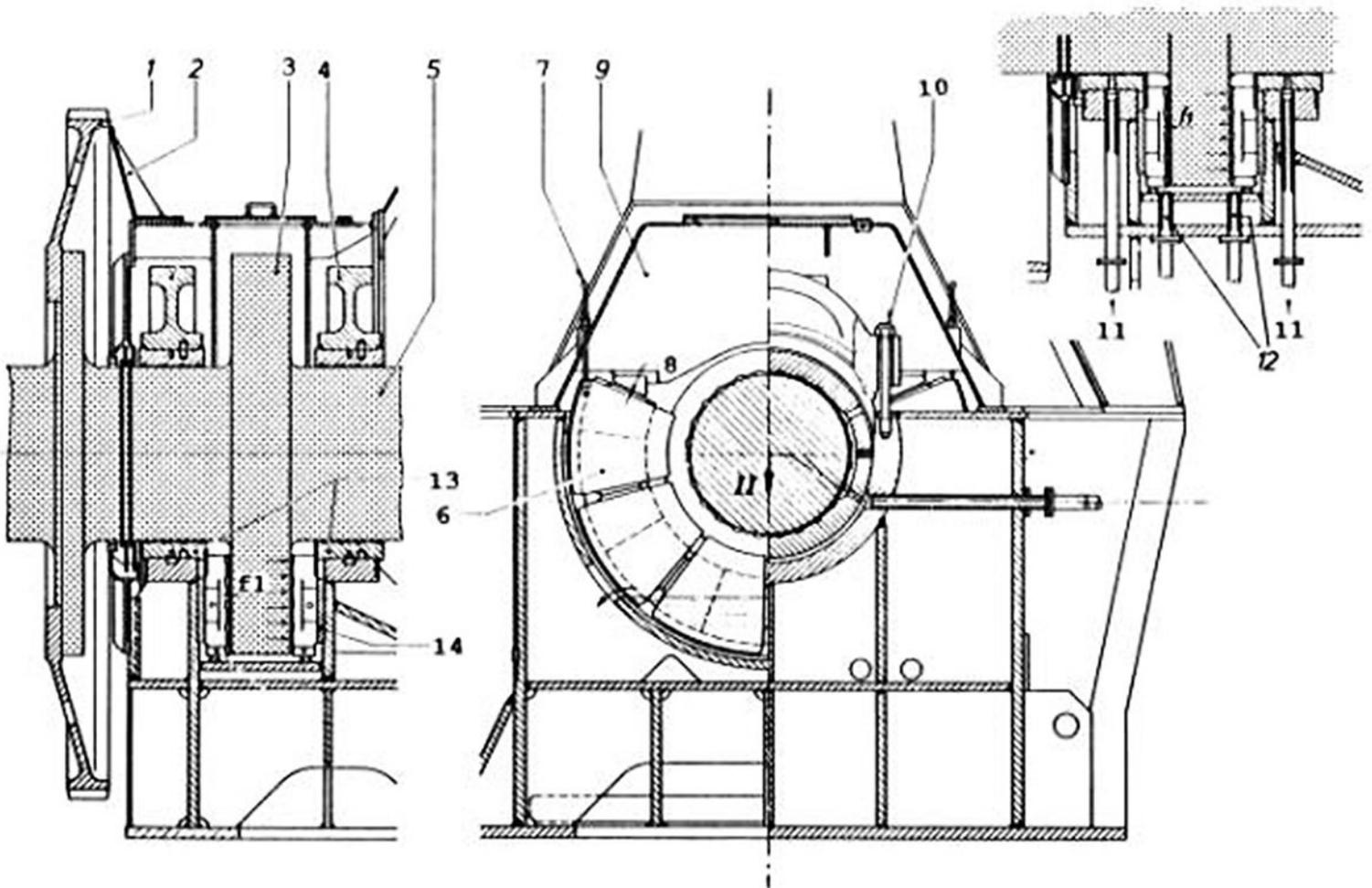


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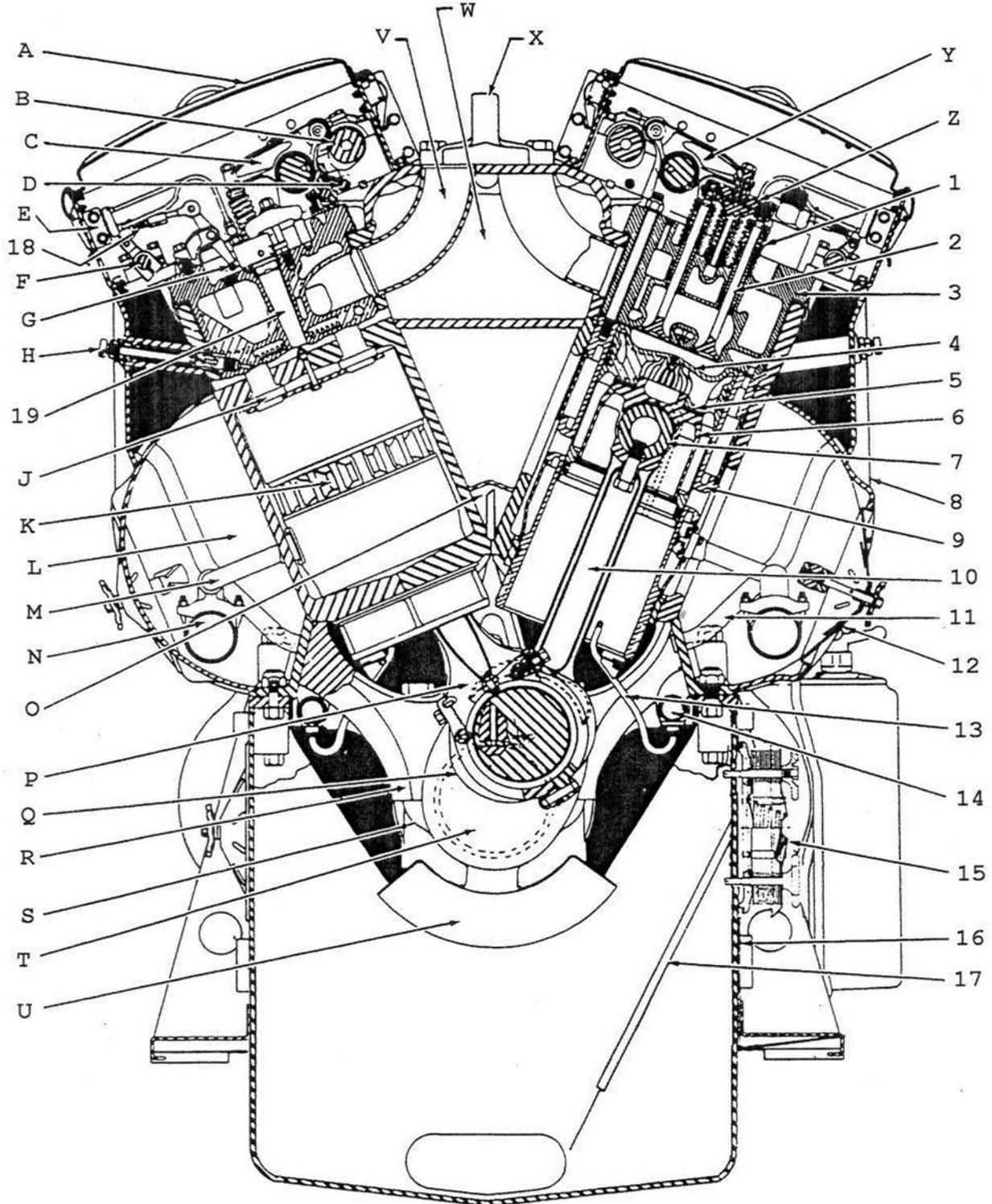


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Operating Instructions for Sulzer Diesel Engines RND-M

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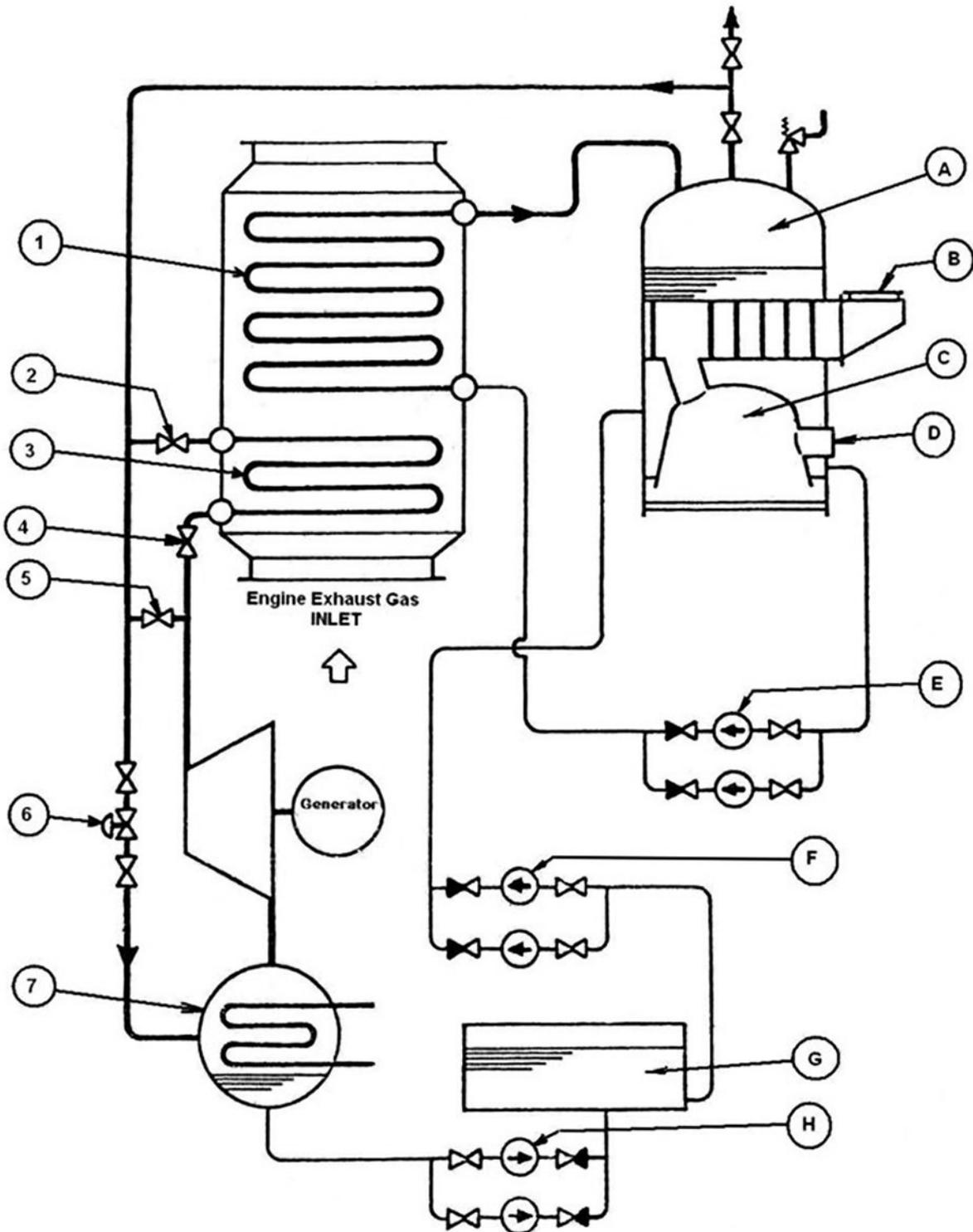
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## MO-0122



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## MO-0128



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