



## **Water Pump Seal Run-In Period – Toyota OE Bulletin**

---

**January 31, 2013**

One of the most common reasons for water pump returns are weep hole leaks. A weep hole leak occurs because a small amount of fluid must pass through the water pump seal in order to provide lubrication. Contamination within the coolant often gets caught in the seal and causes the leak to accelerate. Our flush campaign and focus on the elimination of system contamination is NAPA Tru-Flow's solution to this industry issue.

However, recently we have seen several OE's identifying weep hole leaks as an issue within their service bays. These OE manufacturers have issued Technical Service Bulletins (TSB's) to address this issue. The OE's have pointed out that small weep hole leaks are normal during the break-in period for the pump. Shortly after startup, it is not uncommon for a new water pump to have slight seepage or coolant discharge coming from the weep hole. Several OE's suggest that slight weeping or dampness is allowable for up to 100 miles after installation and should not be attributed to a defective water pump. After an initial break in period, weep hole leaks often disappear, as the seal seats in place.

Attached is an example of a Toyota TSB outlining temporary leak issues and proper inspection of the water pump. Other TSB's exist through Mitchell's and other sources. NAPA Tru-Flow continues to stand behind its program to flush the system when replacing the water pump to eliminate contamination and potential seal damage. We also believe that the OE recommendation of allowing a break in period to seat the seal is a good practice before returning the pump for warranty.

Please use this information to help address question from customers who may be experiencing a significant number of weep hole leaks.

**Good Selling!**

