

Distributor Condenser Surprise

A few years ago there was a quality issue with replacement condensers. So I was pleased to have sourced a "lot" of NOS (new old stock) Lucas condensers. I always prefer NOS over replacement items, but they still have to be checked for serviceability. So I had this lot checked and to my surprise nearly all of them failed. No good!

The condenser is made up of tiny thin layers of foil wrapped in a coil that has a greasy substance integral to the wrapping. On the end of the roll is a contact plate that bridges across the end roll of foil. What I conclude is that the condenser actually has a shelf life. With the passage of time and unknown storage conditions, this NOS item does not have the guaranteed quality of an original. In this case a new replacement is recommended. You may want to check your spares and get a spare.

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