Trans Roller Bearings

by Tom Endy

The Model A kingdom has been inundated with extremely poor quality transmission roller bearings. There are two short bearings, part number A-7118-A and one long bearing, part number A-7121-A. Apparently the original manufacturer went out of business and an off-shore manufacturer is now making them under the same part number, but as a completely different design. The original bearing design had an axle at the end of each roller element that fit into a hole in the end plate. The newly styled roller elements have hollowed out ends that fit onto small round protrusions on the end plates. The end plates seem to be soft and the rollers wear through them after several hundred miles. The roller elements are also warped and do not spin properly.

Numerous low mileage failures have been reported.



Note the end of the roller element on the left in the photo, the end is hollowed out and rides on a protrusion in the end plate. The four vertical posts are what connect the two end plates together.

Most of the Model A parts suppliers are now selling these poor quality bearings. Bratton's has purged their stock and refuses to sell them.