

Congratulations on your purchase of an EMPI ceramic coated exhaust system. EMPI strives to offer the highest quality header coating available on the market today. This durable, high temperature coating will provide a high level of protection from the elements that normally take their toll on unprotected components. However, high performance coatings do require care and maintenance. The addition of the ceramic material adds slightly to the dimensions of the tubing sometimes resulting in an extra tight slip fit between components. This can be corrected by buffing down the ceramic built up in the affected area with a piece of 600 grit wet/dry sand paper. Only remove enough material to facilitate assembly of components, taking care not to eliminate the coating entirely thus losing the protective properties. The following tips are suggested to insure years of service from your ceramic coated headers.

FIRST RUN ENGINES. Most header coating damage usually occurs during the first run on a new engine. When the exhaust temperatures exceed 1200 F° for an extended period of time the coating will turn dull. Excess exhaust temperatures are normally caused by excessively lean or excessively rich air/fuel mixtures and/or incorrect ignition timing. It is very important that the engine is properly set up prior to the first engine run. It is also helpful to use a large fan to help cool the engine and headers for the initial start up.

CLEANING. Stains on Hi Luster Polished finish headers can usually be removed by using hot soapy water or an environmentally safe Orange Cleaner Degreaser and a soft cloth. NEVER use abrasive cleaners. Two or three cleanings may be necessary depending on the stain. The header can be polished with a nonabrasive aluminum polish (Wax Shop, Mothers, Never Dull. etc....).

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE. When storing your car for an extended time, some precautions must be taken. Park the car over a large sheet of plastic or tarp. This will protect the headers from moisture seeping up through the floor. Wipe down and dry the headers thoroughly. Then coat the headers with WD-40 or an equivalent where the tubes are welded to the header flanges and are prone to rusting since it is difficult to the coating to penetrate unexposed areas of the header. If rust occurs it will travel into and under the ceramic coating and cause stain. When you are ready to start your car after storage, wash the WD-40 off by following the CLEANING PROCEDURES above.