# Chris Craft Engine Thermostats
# Engine Models 225B, 283F, 283FLV, 327F, 427, & 431

April, 2001

T1 & T2 - These 2 shots show my three spare stats. The one in the middle is an "oddball" that I bought from a parts bin. I believe it's a Chrysler inboard engine stat from the 80's. The physical dimensions are the same. It's marked "ST 358", & 140 is stamped under the 358 number. The outside 2 stats are the originals in my 427's. Rostra Vernatherm manufactures them, and the number is "Vernatherm Valve VD111458B". On the nose is stamped 130 C 89 4 on one stat,

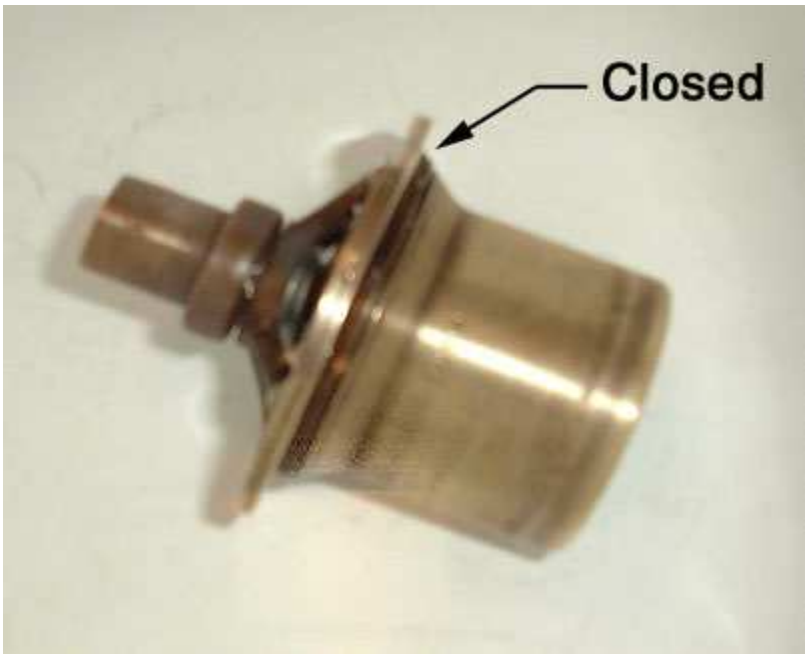
and 130 A78 on the other. (This one was actually manufactured by Century Brass, but carries the Vernatherm valve connotation and the same basic part number). It's interesting to note that Vernatherm call these "Valves".


T3 – This shot shows a seal installation tool I made on my metal lathe. It is very similar to what Chris was selling years ago, as shown in T9. The dimensions are as follows:
Nose dia. & length – 1.608" x 15/64" lg., with a small radius on the leading edge of the nose.
Middle dia. – 1.909" x 5/8 lg.
Long dia. – 1 9/16" x 1 7/8' lg.
Decimal tolerances are -.010", fractional tolerances are + or – 1/32"

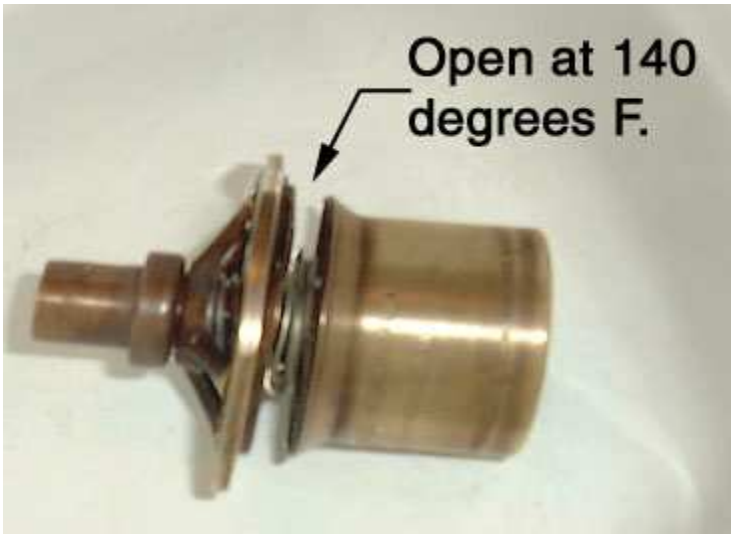

T4 – This shot shows the seal itself. A good Chrysler parts guy may be able to order some for you, otherwise order the C/R 16020 from a power transmission vendor or bearing house such as Berry Bearing.


T5 – This shot shows one of my old seals mounted on the nose of my tool, ready to be tapped into it's bore in the circulating water pump housing.


T6 – This is another shot of the "stat". You can actually see right through these things. Strange looking duck isn't it ??




T7 – This shot shows one of my stats under water, in one of Patty's Corning Ware pots, on her new stove, being heated. The water temp. is less than 130 and the stat is closed.




T8 – This shot shows the stat at 140 degrees. Note that it has opened. Ever see anything like this ??

Chris-Craft

Service **BULLETIN**

Bulletin: E-129 Revision #1

Date: July 1, 1967

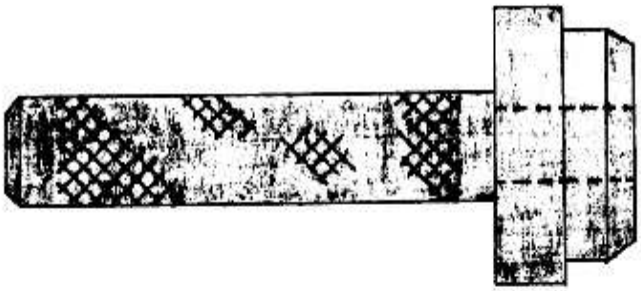
Subject: THERMOSTAT SEAL TOOL - MODELS 225B, 283F, 283FLV, 327F, 427 & 431

When installing the thermostat seal in the above engines, we recommend that a driver be used. The driver aids in the assembly of the seal and preforms the Teflon lip for easier installation.

* The earlier type Thermostat Seal (brass ring with Teflon lip) and Thermostat Seal Tool T-121 are no longer available.

*Thermostat Seal Tool T-135 (56.00-00012) must be used to install the later type Thermostat Seal (black molded case with Teflon lip.)

| PART NUMBER | ITEM |
|---|---|
| 56.00-00012 | Thermostat Seal Tool |



See your Master Parts Price List for current prices.

* These two paragraphs replace second paragraph in previous E-129 dated October 1, 1963.

CHRIS CRAFT CORPORATION

SERVICE DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATION - POMPANO BEACH, FLORIDA PARTS DEPARTMENT - ALGONAC, MICHIGAN

T9 – As mentioned before, this shot is of a CC Technical Service Bulletin, showing their installation tool.

OK, how do we get at this beast? On the 427, the stat & seal are mounted horizontally in the circulating water pump housing. You must remove this pump / housing assembly to get at these parts. After pulling the stat out, use a small prying tool such as an Allen wrench to pry the old seal out. Carefully clean the seal bore and remove any nicks around the edge of the bore. Install the seal on the tool, lube the OD of the seal, & carefully tap it into its bore, taking care not to cock it. I use fine sandpaper or ScotchBrite to clean up the stat. Rotate the thin shell (the part that opens) in your finger to ensure it is not distorted, or better yet, use a micrometer on it. If all is OK, steal a pot & thermometer from your wife & put it in water on the stove & check it's opening point. If it begins to open at the stamped temperature, reinstall it after lightly spreading some grease or oil on the shell to help it slide through the new seal. Now that wasn't bad, was it ? ☺

Dick Morland
Patty Wagon

**PS: the website for RostraVernatherm is:**
**<http://www.rostravernatherm.com/html/ControlValves.htm>**