

October 1, 1965

ENGINEERING MEMO #126

TO: Memo Distribution
FROM: R. G. Fuller
SUBJECT: BELT TENSION

There have been several memos written on the subject but no one of them seems adequate in all respects to cover the problem on hand.

Generally, the life of any belt is shortened by subjecting it to an excessive tension load. If the belt, in operation, is not noisy at 60 lbs. tension it should not be tightened more.

Specifically on current models the need for a higher tension setting after belt "run-in" is noted for air conditioning compressor drives. A final setting after "run-in" should be 70-75 lbs. to reduce noise. Under no circumstances should the tension be set over 80 lbs. in an attempt to compensate for loss of tension in the run-in period. "Over tensioning", will result in the breaking of cords and accelerated belt aging.