

3 Piston crown

3.5 Breakage of the top land

Symptoms The top land has been broken by forcible action. The piston exhibits no traces of previous overheating.

Cause The piston is from a two-stroke Otto engine which broke down as the

and result of faulty assembly.

Effect During the fitting of the piston into the cylinder, the first ring sprang out into the outlet port of the cylinder. Heavy-handed assembly caused the top land to crack. After the engine had run for a short time, breakage occurred.

Remedy When fitting pistons, always use piston ring clamps. In the case of twostroke engines check the direction of installation (ring gaps not at port outlets) and do not turn during installation. Never use force (heavy blows ' or similar) when fitting pistons.