

THE EXTRA MILE

Engine Building and Power Techniques

BY SCOTT SEHR



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Sehr Performance
going the
"EXTRA MILE"

The Advantages of Hiring an ASE Certified Master Engine Machinist

Now days, the word "engine machinist" seems to be thrown around quite a bit. The consumer expects that the person machining and building their engine is very qualified and experienced. The consumer also needs to trust that the engine builder is capable of providing quality and precision in their work.

I want to take some time to discuss the difference between a certified engine machinist and an engine machine operator. Both can be very good at what they do. An engine machine operator knows and understands proper part setup, knows the buttons and levers to make the machine do its work, and knows how to operate the machine efficiently. This is about the extent of the operator's ability and knowledge, and in many circumstances will provide adequate quality and results. Often the engine machine operator enjoys the title of engine machinist because true engine machinists are dropping at an alarming rate.

Many engine shop owners are giving out these titles to give the consumer a feeling of quality in the shops work. Machine operators can be trained at a fraction of the time and cost of an engine machinist, so this seems to be the trend of today.

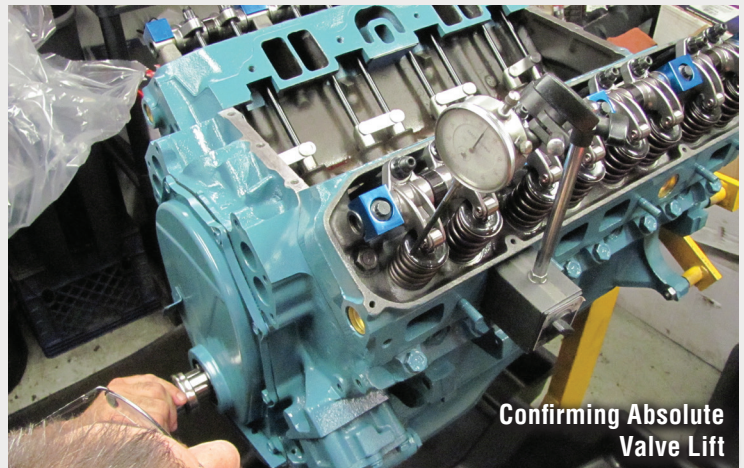
Becoming a certified engine machinist takes years of schooling, training, and on-the-job experiences to effectively earn this title. You see, an engine machinist uses his equipment as a tool to create his art. Not only can an engine machinist do what an engine operator does, but he has the ability to use all of his senses when machining, understands the in-depth workings of the equipment, and can alter his procedure to give him the optimum desired product and finish. Different machines have different personalities and attitudes that require different ways of using them to get the desired outcome. A machine operator may just throw up his arms if the product finishes poorly. An engine machinist

completely understands how and why every part works with each other, so the parts being machined will always work perfectly together, resulting in the best possible outcome. A certified Master Engine Machinist requires years of experience in their craft, in-depth testing of their abilities, and knowledge of all aspects of the craft.

When you are looking for a shop to build your next engine, ask to see their certification. If they are not certified, take a closer look to determine if the shop at hand can really provide the required precision. Anybody can brag about how good they are and how many successes they've had, but to provide the actual certification is a testament to the years of precise engine expertise.

Here at Sehr Performance, we proudly display my ASE Master Engine Machinist certification. Come on down to see it and let us help you with your next engine project.

Precision Grinding
a Crankshaft



Confirming Absolute
Valve Lift