**AMGK7455** 

## EASY SOLUTIONS BULLETIN

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#### MERCEDES SPRINTER VW LT

Make	Model	Year from	Year to
MERCEDES	SPRINTER (901, 902, 903)	01-1995	05-2006
VW	LT	04-1996	05-2006

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#### Challenge

- Ball joints experience premature wear, especially in harsh fleet environments. OE ball joint uses a plastic bearing design with a 3.12 cm ball stud diameter for vehicles of this size a larger ball stud diameter should be used to improve load-carrying capability, and to avoid the deformation and wear which occurs at present.
- The OE ball joint uses a very shallow stud taper in combination with a very high stud nut torque specification of 23.7 Nm. This pulls the stud with extreme force, locking it into the knuckle. Separating the ball joint stud from the knuckle can prove difficult.

### Easy solutions:

In this case the ball joint housing outside diameter is too small to oversize the ball stud. To gain strength and wear resistance, MOOG induction heat-treats the ball stud and housing bearing surface.

- The hardened powdered-metal will not deform under the heavier load, and the porous material keeps lubrication at the bearing surface.
- A premium polychloroprene boot is used, providing a sealed part able to flush contamination.



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