

# PLASTIGAUGE®

## PRECISION CLEARANCE GAUGES

PLASTIGAUGE® provides a simple but effective method for the measurement of clearance between fitted surfaces. It is particularly useful for measuring clearances in split bearings or in situations where a feeler gauge cannot be inserted.

Measurement of clearance in big-end bearings can be achieved without dismantling the crankshaft. We recommend that the engine sump cover should be removed to expose the big-end and its retaining set screws. Remove surplus oil and release the big-end shells by unscrewing the set screws. Wipe the exposed surface of the journal and shell. Apply a smear of grease to the journal and squeeze a small quantity of silicone release agent on to the shell.

Trim a length of Plastigauge to fit across the journal using the grease to hold it in place. Replace the shell and tighten the retaining set screws to the manufacturer's recommended torque setting without rotating the journal.

Now remove the shell once again by unscrewing the set screws to reveal the Plastigauge which will have been spread across the bearing surface as a stripe or band. Match the width of the Plastigauge stripe against the gauge card supplied and read off the bearing clearance.

It is advisable to remove the Plastigauge stripe with a clean oily cloth, but users may be assured that any Plastigauge left behind is oil-soluble and cannot harm the engine in any way.

The normal clearance in the big-end or main bearing should be approximately one part in 2,000 of the diameter. Thus a journal of 2" (50.8mm) in diameter may be expected to show a clearance of 0.001" (0.025mm).

Ovality may be determined by placing PLASTIGAUGE around the bearing shaft.



### General Information

Plastigauge has a wide range of industrial and engineering applications. It is particularly effective for the measurement of separation in moulding tools and wherever it is required to determine the separation between hidden surfaces.

It may be used to detect high spots in cylinder heads, pipe flanges etc and is useful in production, inspection and servicing.

*Plastigauge is a non-hazardous material.*

*Precautions for safe handling: Avoid eye contact. Do not ingest. Wash hands with soap and water immediately after use.*

*Storage conditions: Store in a cool, dry place below 35°C.*

*Plastigauge is manufactured in the United Kingdom.*

