AVIATION TECHNICAL BULLETIN

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ROUTE TO	
SERVICE MANAGER	
SALES MANAGER	
BULLETIN BOARD	

NO. 70-8

September 1, 1970

YOU MAY WONDER WHAT CAUSES SOME SPARK PLUGS IN AN ENGINE SET TO WEAR MORE RAPIDLY THAN THE OTHERS. ONE OF THE CAUSES IS:

CAPACITANCE.

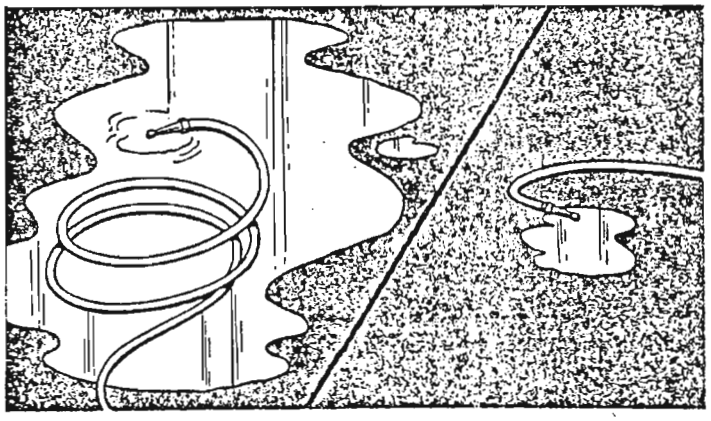
WHAT IS IT?

Webster says: CAPACITANCE "The property of an electric nonconductor that permits the storage of energy as a result of electricity displacement when opposite surfaces of the nonconductor are maintained at a difference of potential."

So, the longer the ignition lead -- of course, of equal construction and material -- the higher capacitance. Material and construction design have a great bearing on ignition lead capacitance.

EXAMPLE OF CAPACITANCE

Picture the magneto points as a water tap, and the ignition lead as a water hose. The longer the hose, the more run-off of water once the tap is shut off. By comparison, the longer the ignition lead, the higher the capacitance -- thus more after-firing to wear electrodes more rapidly.



WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Simply swap the long ignition lead spark plug with the short ignition lead spark plug. Also, when replacing ignition leads, select a lead that has a low capacitance reading.

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