

Grinding Solutions For Automotive Engine Manufacturing Processes









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Grinding Solution: Cam lobe Grinding

In order for an engine to achieve high power output and low fuel consumption, the cam's concave profile is becoming more crucial. Grinding issues, such as grinding cracks and residual stress, are more likely to occur compared to traditional shapes. In addition, materials that have high strength and toughness, such as ductile cast iron, will be more difficult to grind compared to the gray cast iron because of the high heat buildup. This issue will lead into the problem mentioned previously, which will be prone



Fig. 1 Outline of Cam lobe grinding

to occur more easily. In these types of applications, utilizing a CBN wheel with a high cutting ability is favorable. But these types of wheels tends to have a short wheel life, which means there will be more frequent wheel changes. This will lead to production loss, and end up increasing the cost per part, due to machine down time. We would need to look into a CBN wheel for cam lobe grinding that has both high cutting ability and long wheel life. Noritake would like to introduce Sharp Kaizer as the Vitrified bonded CBN wheel suited for such cam lobe grinding.

Cam lobe grinding

110mm³/mm•s

Rotary dresser (SD30) Water base coolant

140m/s

Sharp Kaiser (Vitrified-bond CBN wheel)

Feature: Good balance between cutting ability and wheel life due to the homogeneous structure and increased grain protrusion.

The cam lobe grinding test of ductile cast iron material was carried out under the test conditions in Table 1. Fig. 3 shows the power consumption of the Sharp Kaiser and the traditional products. The power consumption of the Sharp

Table 1 Test conditions

[Grinding wheel]		[Grinding conditions]	
Specifications	CBX140-V	Grinding method	
Dimensions	ø350×T35×ø20mm	Grinding wheel speed	
		Grinding efficiency	
[Workpiece]		Dresser	
Material	FCD700	Coolant	





Fig. 3 Power Consumption



Kaiser is lower than that of the traditional product, which shows that the cutting ability is improved. In addition, Fig. 4 compares the grinding results between Sharp Kaiser and the traditional product when grinding with equivalent power consumption. After dressing both wheels so that they each produce the same quality, the Sharp Kaizer had held It's surface finish by 1.9 times longer, and the roundness by 2.9 times longer than the traditional product. The surface roughness is 12% finer and the residual stress is 75% lower, thus improving the overall workpiece quality. Sharp Kaizer is able to achieve such long life because of the improved bond structure uniformity and the improved cutting ability due to its higher grain protrusion (Fig. 5). In other case studies, not only does the Sharp Kaizer improve the work finish quality and reduce scratches, but it also increased it's dressing interval by 1.5 to 2 times compared to the traditional product.





Traditional product

Sharp Kaiser

Grinding solution: Cylinder bore grinding (honing) of cylinder block

The inner surface of the cylinder block is finished by honing, and metal-bonded diamond/CBN honing tools are commonly used. This grinding method is characterized by inserting the honing head into the bore and grinding by expanding the tool against the work surface while rotating and reciprocating within the cylinder bore. Honing is required the formation of a plateau surface as well as grinding within the cycle time. Therefore, the surface roughness and cutting ability corresponding to each grinding process are required for honing tools. In addition,



since the tool is used without dressing, honing tools must maintain consistent cutting ability throughout its tool-life. NORITAKE's lineup of bonds for diamond/CBN honing tools can sustain high grinding efficiency and stable cutting ability even on high hardness workpieces or when surface roughness finer than Rz4µm is required. Noritake would like to introduce the MKD series for honing rough process and the MHB series for honing finish and plateau process.

MKD Series (Diamond Tools)

Feature: Extending tool life and maintaining cutting ability with high hardness microstructure bond

The test conditions and comparison between a traditional Honing Tool and the MKD Series Honing Tool are shown in Table 2. The MKD Series Tool achieved 2.2 times longer tool life while maintaining the same stock removal amount as the traditional product (Fig. 7). The MKD series

Table 2 Test conditions

Grinding method	Mechanically extended honing	
Tool apositiontions	SD400 (Traditional product)	
roor specifications	SD400 (MKD Series)	
Tool dimensions	L60 × W4mm (6 pcs)	
Peripheral speed of tool	53m/min	
Tool reciprocating speed	22m/min	
Workpiece material	Cast iron (FC250(JIS))	
Workpiece dimensions	ø84×L135mm	
Coolant	Water base coolant	





Fig. 9 uses a high-hardness bond to improve the cutting of **MKD Series** abrasive grains as well as improve grinding efficiency. Although clogging is caused by the high wear resistance of common high-hardness bonds, the MKD series has a fine bond structure that promotes bond abrasion by ground chips, thus ensuring abrasive grain protrusion and enabling stabilization of cycle time due to good cutting ability (Fig. 8). Since the MKD series can maintain the cutting ability of the rough process, the surface roughness and bore accuracy are stabilized after the rough process, and it is also effective for stabilization of the finish process (stabilization of cycle time, surface roughness, and bore accuracy).

MHB Series (Diamond Tools)

Feature: Improving cutting ability and longer tool life through the development of special fillers

The MHB Series 3 was compared with the Traditional product under the test conditions shown in Table 3. The MHB series has a 30% improvement in stock removal amount compared to traditional products, and the tool life is equivalent or better (Fig. 11). In addition, we were able to confirm that the grinding efficiency was also stable. The MHB series features a special filler instead of the traditional solid lubricant (filler) (Fig. 12). The special filler wears gradually during grinding to form a chip pocket, enabling suppression of grinding force and stable cutting edge renewal cycles. Also, special fillers are chemically bonded with bonds and abrasive grains, so wear can be reduced compared to traditional fillers. MHB series realizes cycle time reduction and improvement of cycle time stability while maintaining tool life.

Table 3 Test cond	itions	Fig. 11 T
Grinding method	Mechanically extended honing	140 120
T 1 10 11	SD700 (Traditional product)	00 (3 au
I ool specifications	SD700 (MHB Series)	00 jundo (jingo)
Tool dimensions	L75 × W4mm (6 pcs)	20
Peripheral speed of tool	95m/min	0
Tool reciprocating speed	25m/min	
Workpiece material	Cast iron (equivalent to FC250(JIS))	Fig. 12 S
Workpiece dimensions	ø84×L135mm	
Coolant	Water base coolant	







[Patent pending]

Fig. 10 **MHB Series**



Grinding Solution: Crankshaft Pin Grinding

In crankshaft pin grinding, the crankshaft rotates and the CBN wheel spindle slides back and forth in synch with the crankshaft pin's position (Fig. 13). In the process, the position of the grinding point and the supply state of the coolant change continuously as shown in Fig. 14. At points B and D, the coolant supply to the grinding point deteriorates. This is known to lead to such issues as grinding burn, cracking, and hardness reduction. At the same time, there is a demand to extend the dressing interval as much as possible in order to reduce the tool cost per machine. Further improved cutting ability and wheel life are also required. This section introduces the Σ (Sigma) Wheel as a vitrified CBN wheel suitable for crankshaft pin grinding.





Σ Wheel (Vitrified-bond CBN wheel)

Feature: Improved lubricity with special coating agent prevents grinding burn

The results of grinding tests using thermography are shown in Table 4. We confirmed that the ambient temperature at the grinding point decreased by about 20% (Fig. 15(a), (b)) and the



amount of heat generated was reduced. In addition, the surface roughness and wheel wear remain the same as the standard product, but the power consumption has been reduced by about 10%, and the cutting ability has been improved (Fig. 15 (c)). The Σ Wheel is specially coated to reduce grinding heat (Fig. 16). This effect was achieved by the lubricity improvement that the special coating agent provides. In the field, we were able to achieve a dressing interval 2 to 4 times that of the current product by suppressing hardness reduction and preventing grinding burn. In addition, we were able to shorten the cycle time because of the reduced power consumption.

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