

How to Select the Correct Diaset Core Bit

If drilling conditions are unknown, start with a Matrix #7X, Heavy Duty (HD) crown design

Selection Guide & Troubleshooting Tips

A Define rock hardness

1. **For softer rock:** (MOH's hardness to 5). Use lower matrix numbers #2X - #7X
2. **For very soft rock** (MOH's hardness to 3, use a PCD, Polycrystalline or Surface Set
3. **Harder rock:** Use higher matrix number #8X - 13X

B Define the degree of abrasiveness, fractures or breaks within a particular rock formation

1. Coarse grained and fractured: use a lower matrix number
2. Fine grained and solid: use a higher matrix number

C Define type of diamond drill used:

1. **High powered drills** (>100 h.p.), choose lower matrix numbers to maximize bit life.
2. **Low powered drills** choose a higher matrix number to get better penetration.
3. If ground or rig conditions force you to turn at lower RPM, then choose a lower matrix number. (Low RPM makes a matrix act differently)
4. Always use the highest RPM that suits the conditions.

D Tips for selecting the correct matrix type

If you started with a Diaset matrix #7X HD, and if productivity is too slow, try a #8X or higher matrix number. A Turbo crown design will cut the fastest in hard, solid rock. If bit life is too low, try a lower matrix number, such as matrix #6X. Review the troubleshooting guide to pinpoint specific formation problems, to help you fine tune for the selection of the next bit.

Call the factory or your representative for additional help.



New Bit & Normal Wear Pattern



New Bit Observation

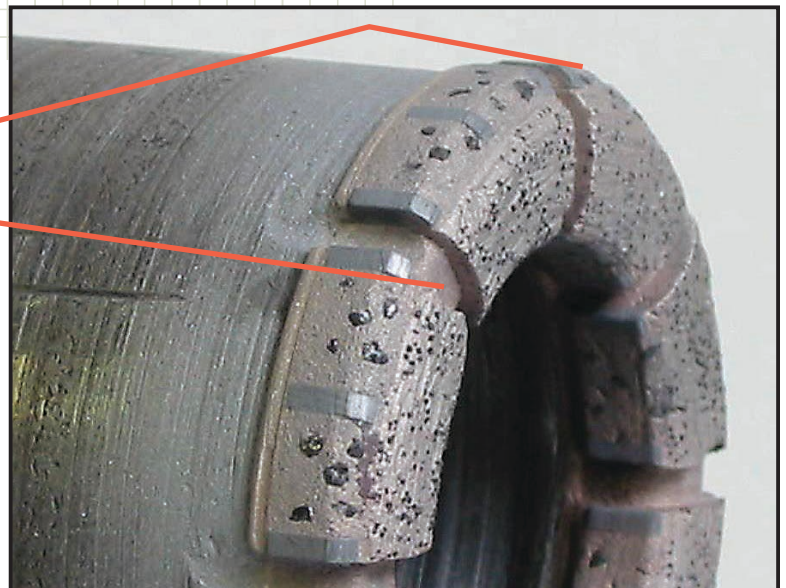
- v-ring pattern allows bit to start drilling quickly, stabilizes bit to bottom of hole.

Normal Wear

- O.D. and I.D. gauge intact
- flat to slight rounded profile
- "teardrop" matrix wear pattern behind diamond

Comments

- correct drilling procedure
- correct matrix selection



I.D. Gauge Problems



Observations:

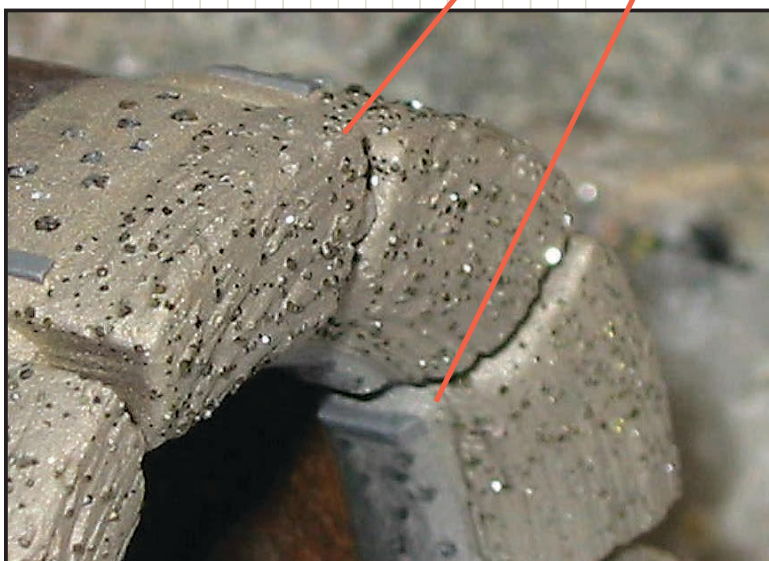
- rounded wear to I.D.
- excessive diamond exposure
- complete loss of I.D. gauge

Probable causes:

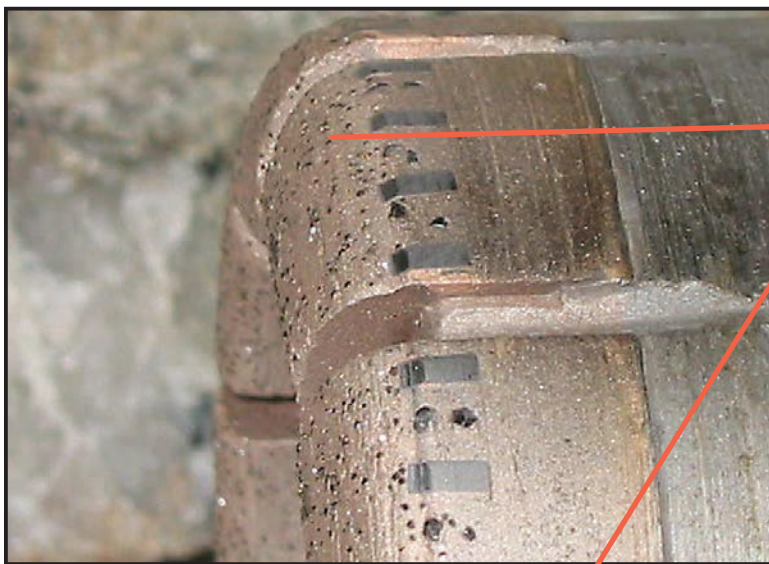
- Hard, broken or fractured formation
- excessive penetration rate for the RPM used
- insufficient fluid flow
- mis-latched innertube
- high bit load
- improper innertube adjustment

Possible solutions:

- retrieve innertube immediately upon core block
- clean hole properly before each core run
- use a harder (lower number) matrix
- increase pump output.
- check rod string for leaks, split rods
- adjust innertube to allow more fluid flow
- increase RPM



O.D. Gauge Problems



Observations:

- rounded wear to O.D.
- complete loss of O.D. gauge

Probable causes:

- vibration
- excessive RPM
- bit reaming down an undersize hole
- bit following a worn bit
- insufficient fluid flow (attempting to make bit cut faster)



Possible solutions:

- alter RPM to reduce vibration. May have to change matrix to suit new RPM
- stabilize drill string
- adjust bit weight to reduce vibration
- check reaming shell, replace if undersized
- start drilling with new bit well before bottom of hole to ensure hole size matches new bit.
- increase fluid flow
- softer (higher number) matrix

Burnt & Polished Bits



Burnt Bit Observations:

- melted crown.
- diamonds and waterways fused

Probable causes:

- insufficient fluid flow
- split drill rod(s)

Possible solutions:

- check pump
- check innertube adjustment
- check rods for leaks or cracks
- increase fluid flow

Polished Bit Observations:

- no or poor diamond exposure
- smooth surface

Probable causes:

- wrong matrix selection, diamond concentration too high
- drill too small to push this bit

Possible solutions:

- use a softer (higher number) matrix
- try decreasing fluid flow rate slightly
- sandblast face of bit to expose diamonds
- maintain torque, keep the bit cutting

