

Service Bulletin 018 December 2025

"Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery that mediocrity can pay to greatness." - Oscar Wilde

A Proven Legacy of Performance

Thirty years ago, Penn Machine Company (PMC) became the first in the industry to introduce our carburized "PMC Super Gears" to the locomotive aftermarket. Since then, PMC has earned a global reputation for delivering the lowest cost per mile through superior engineering, premium materials, and uncompromising quality.

While results can be operation specific, customers consistently report PMC pinions remaining in service for 5 to 8 years and bull gears lasting 25 to 30 years—a testament to the durability of genuine PMC products. These results are why many railroads now specify PMC gears in their overhauls.

However, we've recently learned of imitation "PMC" gears circulating in the market. These counterfeit products may look and fit like PMC gears, but they are made from inferior materials, manufactured using lower-cost processes, and fail prematurely.

How to Identify Genuine PMC Products

To help customers verify authenticity, PMC is enhancing product marking and traceability. All Genuine PMC Gears Will Feature:

- Engraved PMC logos whenever possible.
- Engraving Stamping on the rim face with ¼-inch characters.
- Markings on PMC products include Part Number, PMC Serial Number and Month/Year of Manufacture (MO/YR)

Bull Gear Markings



Pinion Markings



Armature Markings



Packaging

All products leave the factory in PMC branded packaging and "Made in USA" labelling





Summary

If you have any concerns about the authenticity of your gears or want to learn more about what sets PMC apart, please contact your PMC Sales Representative to request our white paper: "The PMC Difference."

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