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Commutators

The three most common types of commutator assemblies are the Molded, V-Ring, and Banded commutators. The type installed on a DC machine depends on the motor design and application. Each type is constructed differently. The Molded type which is held together by epoxy cannot be repaired, whereas the V-Ring and Banded can. All commutators must be tested for grounds and shorts after stripping an armature and before rewinding begins. Once the commutator has been connected to the armature windings, the MCEGold DC Bar-to-Bar test will check for shorted commutator bars and armature windings. A low resistance ohmmeter capable of obtaining resistance measurements up to five significant digits should be used. Allowed variances of less than 1% are often required.

Source: *Armature Rewinding Repair & Testing Course Workbook* by RLA Inc.

You are invited to submit an Electric Motor Testing Tip of your own and receive a free PdMA mug or hat if we publish it! Contact Lou at 813-621-6463 ext. 126 or lou@pdma.com.

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