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Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : Any idea on manufacturer?

Re: Any idea on manufacturer?

Author: : pcray1231

Date: : 2013/10/10 11:11:11

URL:

Quote:

"In instances where stainless is more appropriate, we chose a "nice alloy" like 17-4 PH rather than the typical, far "meaner alloys" 302 or 303 found in other reels."

Well, truth and marketing are natural opposites.

17-4 is MUCH higher strength than your austenitic stainless's like 304 and 316.

But the big advantage is that you can get that strength in a machinable, formable, fashion. It's an age-hardenable alloy. You can overage it to a fairly soft form, and do any forming in that condition. Then austenitize and quench, and it's still only medium hardness, and you can machine it quite well without tearing up your tools. Then with a one step, fairly low temperature treatment, you can make your finished part really strong and hard.

So if marketers were honest, they'd say something like "we used 17-4 because it's cheaper than 304L, and we can manufacture it more cheaply as well. This translates to a better price for you. Despite the cost, it offers far better strength and hardness than 304L, meaning it'll polish up nicely and resist scratching. The trade-off is worse corrosion resistance, but it's still a stainless and won't rust in freshwater or if properly rinsed after being exposed to saltwater. And if we like to deal with it, well, that means we want to convince you that you like it too!"

And I'll even allow the typical marketing type substitutions. Such as:

Worse than = approaching that of

cheaper than = we can offer to you for a more affordable price

I just go on a rant when it goes beyond this stuff, and into the realm of "wrong".