



03/10/2012

## WHAT MAKES THE HYLIFT-JOHNSON LIFTERS SUPERIOR TO OTHERS?

Hylift-Johnson lifters for Harley Davidson.

The original Harley Davidson Hylift-Johnson lifters are superior because they have better bleed down specification for better valve lash control and higher oil output capacity delivery for the valves. This in turn provides better lubrication and cooling.

Q: Why does Harley Davidson no longer use Hylift-Johnson lifters, which were originally designed for Harley Davidson?

A: Cost cutting measure. From 1998-2002 Hylift-Johnson lifters were O.E part. In this time frame Harleys did not suffer from lifter associated problems. 2002 onwards Delphi brand units were used. They were unable to "copy" the Hylift-Johnson internals (patented).

"From 1999 - 2001, Johnson-Hylift supplied lifters to Harley-Davidson... Johnson-Hylift designed and produced a special piston and valve body to work across the temp ranges and varying oil psi typically encountered on an air-cooled engine such as the Harley. Since late 2001, HD has used Delphi brand hydraulic lifters. That's why there was a Harley p/n change from 18538-99 to 18538-99A and now 18538-99B. However, Delphi did not use a 0.655" hi-volume / hi-pressure plunger piston and valve body specifically designed for Harley as found in the Johnson-Hylift lifters. Instead, Delphi essentially used a small block Chevy lifter. The main difference is the Delphi lifter tries to boost the hydraulic psi by decreasing the piston diameter, but this leads to a smaller high pressure oil reservoir. The volume is too small and allows the lifter to clatter. That may be why so many of the late model Twin-Cam bikes are noisy. After doing some research AMS learned these Delphi version 18538-99B lifters are made too small to stand up to Harley's heavy valve spring pressure. The oil reservoir inside the lifter is too small. It doesn't hold enough oil to let the lifter bleed off under normal use and still have a cushion of compressed oil to take up valve train slack. Note: ALL lifters bleed off during operation and even more-so when the bikes sits, engine off. "

Q: What other well known brands use Hylift-Johnson lifters?

A: S&S Cycle do! Excerpt from S&S Cycle website below.

"S&S offers high performance tappets for 1999-up Harley-Davidson® Twin Cam 88® and Twin Cam 96™ engines and 2000-up Sportster® models. These tappets are a great choice for any stock or high performance application. Only the finest materials and precision machining techniques are used in the manufacture of these lifters, and strict quality control insures that they will work



flawlessly every time, no matter what the application. Whether you have a stock 88 inch or the most outrageous big inch engine with a radical cam and spring combination, S&S tappets are built to take it. Sold as a set of 4, HL<sub>2</sub>T kit not included.

Harley-Davidson® part number 18538-99A/B.

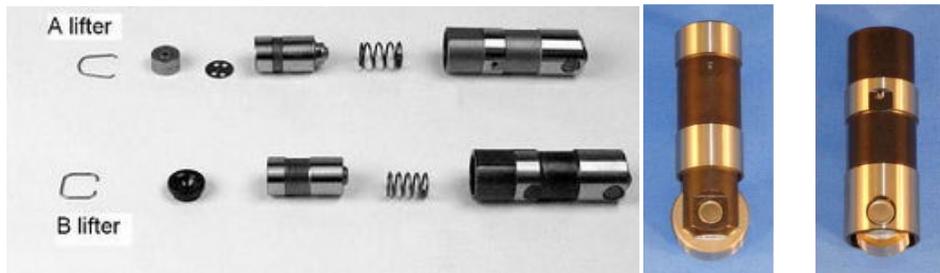
S&S offers high performance tappets for 1999-up Harley-Davidson® Twin Cam 88® and Twin Cam 96™ engines and 2000-up Sportster® models. These tappets are a great choice for any stock or high performance application. Only the finest materials and precision machining techniques are used in the manufacture of these lifters, and strict quality control insures that they will work flawlessly every time, no matter what the application. Whether you have a stock 88 inch or the most outrageous big inch engine with a radical cam and spring combination, S&S tappets are built to take it. Sold as a set of 4, HL<sub>2</sub>T kit included, requires the use of adjustable pushrods.

**Note: All reference to H-D® part numbers is for identification purposes only. We in no way are implying that any of S&S Cycle's products are original equipment parts or that they are equivalent to the corresponding H-D® part number shown."**

Q: Are there any other differences, which make Hylift-Johnson lifters superior?

A: Yes. Because Hylift-Johnson lifters are made in the U.S, they are made from superior material content, the Nickel & Moly content is higher than others on the market including O.E.

For superior slow leak down and heavy valve spring pressures we recommend part number A-2313S (twin-cam models)



A-2303 A-2313

**Summary: If you want the best quality and less rattle, insist on Hylift-Johnson lifters for your Harley!**

|           |                          |         | Retail inc | Dealer exc |
|-----------|--------------------------|---------|------------|------------|
| A-2303S   | LIFTER EVO H/DUTY        | EACH    | 86.25      | 56.25      |
| A-2303S/4 | LIFTER EVO H/DUTY        | [SET 4] | 345.00     | 180.00     |
| A-2303/4  | LIFTER EVO STANDARD      | [SET 4] | 345.00     | 180.00     |
| A-2313S   | LIFTER TWIN CAM H/DUTY   | EACH    | 86.25      | 56.25      |
| A-2313S/4 | LIFTER TWIN CAM H/DUTY   | [SET 4] | 345.00     | 180.00     |
| A-2313/4  | LIFTER TWIN CAM STANDARD | [SET 4] | 345.00     | 180.00     |

NOTE: Heavy duty Hylift Johnson Lifters are suitable as stock OEM replacement as well as performance applications