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# Service Bulletin

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MOTORCYCLE DIVISION

4-STROKE  
BULLETIN VS/VX/VZ/VL NO. 38  
DATE: 4/19/2006

**SUBJECT:** OIL LEVEL INSPECTION AND OIL CHANGE PROCEDURE

**MODEL:** VZR1800K6

**REFERENCE:** VZR1800 SERVICE MANUAL (PN 99500-39290-03E)  
Pages 2-17, 2-18  
VZR1800 OWNER'S MANUAL (PN 99011-48G50-03A)  
Pages 7-14 through 7-18

**NOTICE:**

Suzuki has received reports of overfilled engine oil at initial delivery. The VZR1800K6 uses the Suzuki Advanced Sump System (SASS). The system uses the transmission chamber as an oil tank in this semi-dry sump engine design.

Following the proper oil level inspection procedure during Pre-delivery inspection and oil changes is critical to ensure the correct engine oil level. Overfilling the oil sump may cause excess oil to enter the air cleaner housing, contaminating the filter causing poor performance and possible oil leakage. Please instruct your customers in the proper method of checking and filling the oil level.

**Oil Level Inspection**

Warm up the engine for **15 minutes** to move all oil from the crankshaft area to the sump (transmission) area. Stop the engine and wait **3 minutes**. Remove and wipe the dipstick. Insert the dipstick- do not thread it in. Read the dipstick and adjust the oil level between the F and L marks as needed.

**CAUTION**

Running the engine can be done on the sidestand or upright, but the oil level must be checked with the motorcycle in the vertical position.

Warm-up for less than 15 minutes will give a false low oil level reading indicating more oil should be added (overfilled). Stopping the engine for 3 minutes stabilizes the oil level. Too little time may indicate a low oil level. If the engine is left to cool, the oil level will read low and the process must be repeated.

**Oil Change Procedure**

Follow the Periodic Maintenance Chart in the service manual for changing the oil at the prescribed intervals. Warm-up the engine for **15 minutes** to move all oil from the crankshaft area to the sump (transmission) area. With the motorcycle in the vertical position remove **both** oil drain plugs, one for the engine, one for the sump (transmission).

**⚠ WARNING**

Draining oil from a hot engine can cause severe burns. Take precautions to prevent burns from the oil as well as other hot engine parts.

Once the oil is drained, replace and torque the drain plugs to the specified torque.

 Oil Drain Plug: 23Nm (2.3 kgf-m, 16.5 lb-ft)

Change the oil filter as per the recommended interval following the service manual instructions (page 2-18).

With the motorcycle upright, add 3.4 L (3400ml or 3.6 US qt). Start and run the engine **15 minutes**, checking oil level as described on the previous page.

NOTE: If necessary, oil may initially be added with the motorcycle on the sidestand. Add only 3.0 L (3000ml or 3.2 US qt). Start and run the engine **3 minutes**. Add 0.4L (400ml or 0.42 US qt). Check oil level as described on the previous page.

Recommended oil:

SAE 10W-40, API SF/SG or SH/SJ with JASO MA rating

Required oil quantity:

Oil change: 3.4 L (3400ml, 3.6 US qt)

Oil and filter change: 3.6 L (3600ml, 3.8 US qt)

Overhaul: 4.7 L (4700ml, 5.0 US qt)

**AFFECTED DEPARTMENTS:**

The following departments in your dealership should be notified of this information:

Management    Service    Warranty    Sales    Parts    Accessories

American Suzuki Motor Corporation  
Technical Service Department  
Motorcycle / ATV