

So, 6 months ago I buy a nice 2001 XJ with great repair documents, importantly showing tensioners changed 35K ago. Over about 2 weeks I hear an odd noise like marbles momentarily on cold start up. The car ran fine after a few seconds. Since the tensioners were changed I couldn't figure source of the noise. This week had the same noise and drove a few miles on errands. Pulled into the garage and got an engine light when put into park. Plugged in a scan tool and got a P1396 code.

After code was cleared, I called the shop (long-standing Jag guy well respected) who sold the car to me for advise. He suggested an oil change with only Castrol which I did next day. Today, I checked dipstick before starting to see it "on the mark" and started the car. No codes, but same marbles on cold start. WTF?

Anyone hear of new metal tensioners failing? What else could be source of the typically described plastic tensioners going bad? I'm both puzzled and afraid to drive the car. HELP?