

DriveAlign® belt tensioners
OE performance and fit for accessory belt drive systems



As a result of our design and engineering capabilities and our reputation for innovation and development, we have become known as the Automotive Belt Drive System Specialist. For example, not only are we the world's largest belt manufacturer, delivering products both to OEMs and to the aftermarket, but we're also one of the largest suppliers for OE belt tensioners in Europe. We offer the largest line of tensioners and idlers for accessory belt drive systems to the aftermarket.

Tensioners, like any other part, don't last forever, and automotive technicians will be replacing more and more of them. A failed tensioner can cause the belt to break or fly off the drive, resulting in a breakdown. Often the cause is misdiagnosed as a belt problem, when in reality the tensioner should be replaced. Now there's a solution for this: Gates – the name you trust – will now provide you with high-quality OE equivalent tensioners for light and heavy-duty applications. They come with all the convenience and ease of doing business that you're used to with Gates.





Serpentine belt drives consist of a single multi-ribbed belt that drives several engine accessories. The vast majority of vehicles with serpentine belt drives have an automatic tensioner. Tension is provided by a powerful spring, located within a small canister-like housing to which a pulley is attached. The pulley pivots around the spring housing and generates a constant belt tension.

Tensioners are designed into the belt drive system for several reasons:

- Proper tension is maintained throughout the belt life.
- They increase belt life because the belt is maintained at an ideal tension under all conditions.
- They eliminate the need for an initial very high tension to compensate for tension loss during service - thereby increasing bearing life of the accessories.

You want an aftermarket tensioner that fits and performs like the original?

Gates DriveAlign® tensioners install exactly like the OE part. No more hunting for OE replacement parts. No more worries about inferior "universal fit" brands costing you money and valuable customers. Gates tensioner technology includes many patented features and our OE-quality tensioners give you and your customers not only the right fit but:

- Reduced warranty and fewer costly comebacks.
- Increased customer satisfaction – better performance and longer life.
- More sales opportunities – greater coverage and availability.

OE fit, not retrofit

Gates DriveAlign® tensioners offer precise OE fit for most applications. Gates tensioners bolt on just like the original tensioner. With Gates DriveAlign® tensioners, you'll get performance that's equal to or better than the original. In fact, Gates engineers analyse the failure modes of OE designs and make any necessary adjustments to improve performance.





Contamination resistance

The unique sealing used in Gates DriveAlign® tensioners virtually eliminates the risk of contamination and corrosion. In other tensioner designs, however, trapped dirt and grit wear away rust inhibitors used to prevent contamination and can lead to rust bleed. Rust bleed from an automatic tensioner can adversely affect other components and is a good indication that the spring is worn and the tensioner needs to be replaced – with a Gates DriveAlign® tensioner.



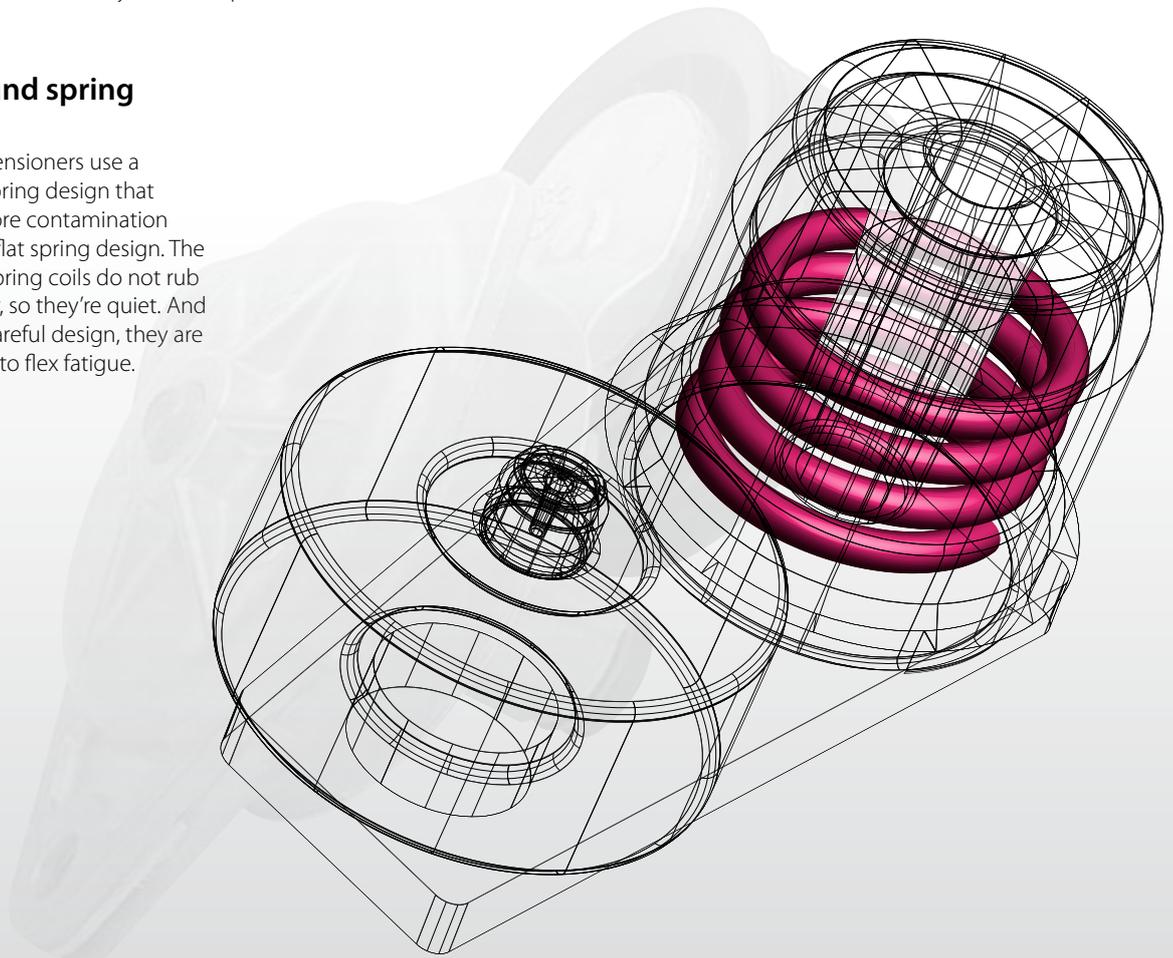
Vibration and noise resistance

The presence of a damping mechanism is a great advantage to the life of a tensioner and the proper function of the drive as a whole. OEM tensioners have damping mechanisms. So do Gates DriveAlign® tensioners, which have a damping mechanism made of a highly engineered composite. In the case of some particularly demanding drives, Gates also offers an asymmetric damping capability, which means we can control the damping force to the optimum level no matter which way the tensioner is rotating and in a way other tensioners simply cannot.

Essentially, a damper acts just like a shock absorber does on a vehicle suspension system, reducing tensioner motion and minimizing vibration and noise. Without it, there is inadequate vibration absorption for the accessory drive. Dampers extend the life of the belt, the tensioner and the accessory drive components.

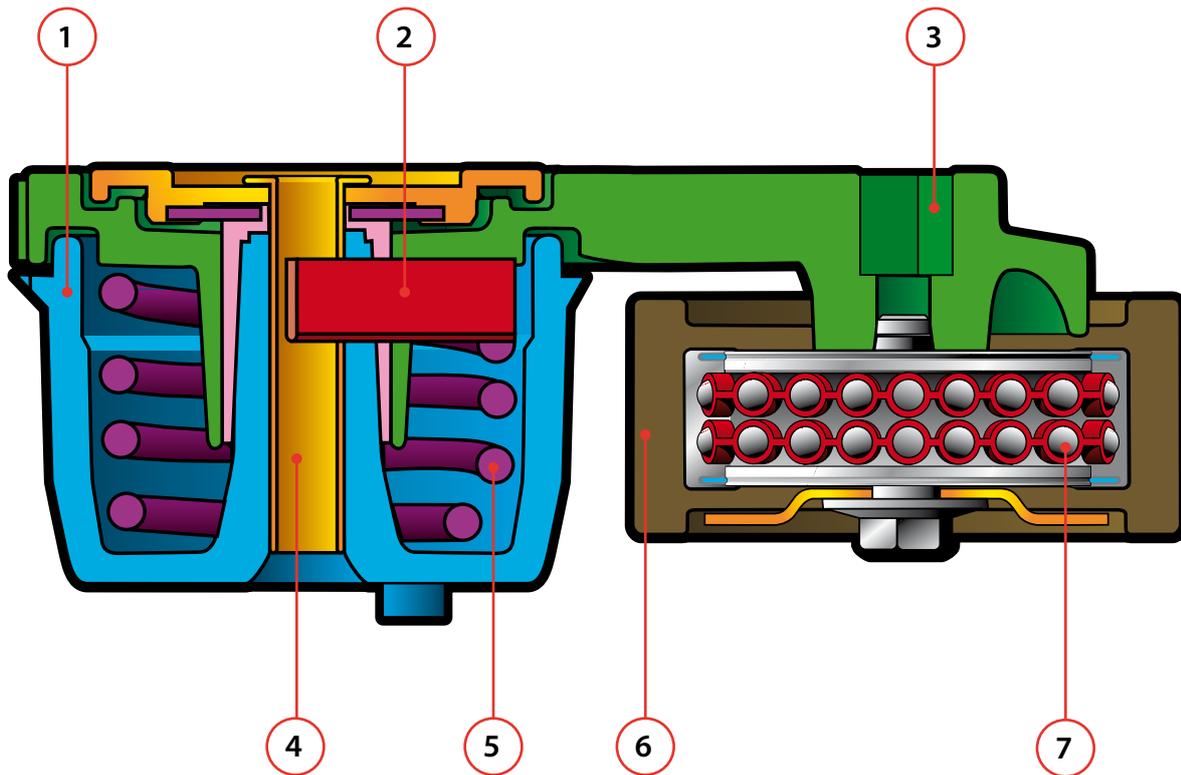
Patented round spring design

Gates automatic tensioners use a patented round spring design that is stronger and more contamination resistant than the flat spring design. The chrome-silicone spring coils do not rub against each other, so they're quiet. And because of their careful design, they are much less subject to flex fatigue.



DriveAlign® automatic belt tensioners

1. **Unique sealing** – Prevents contamination of internal parts for maximum durability and service life.
2. **Patented damper** – Specifically designed to increase belt and tensioner life.
3. **Computer aided component design** – Engineered for minimum unit weight but maximum strength and durability.
4. **Patented bush design** – Reduces wear and ensures proper alignment for life of tensioner.
5. **Round wire spring** – Chrome-silicon torsion spring for less flex fatigue than flat spring designs.
6. **Pulleys** – Reduce surface wear.
7. **Precision bearings** – Premium bearings minimise friction for reduced bearing wear and noise.



With advantages like these, there's no reason why you shouldn't order a premium Gates DriveAlign® tensioner from your local parts dealer. It's the OE equivalent tensioner that fits and performs like the original, but comes with aftermarket convenience. Choosing the right tensioners is easy when you choose Gates.

www.gates.com/europe

Your distributor:

