

<https://www.practicalmachinist.com/vb/members/slk001/>

In a recent [post](#) about tailstock Unit Codes, I found out that two SB tailstocks for the heavy 10 had two different Unit Codes.

Today I investigated the differences. First off, the two top castings are the same (50R2). The two bases superficially look the same, but the older casting number is 51R2 and the newer is 51R3. I didn't remove the bases from the main casting to see any differences on the top side. The newer TS is on the right, the older on the left.



The newer TS spindle has a key that extends the entire length of the spindle. This may NOT be factory, as the pin that is supposed to hold the key to the spindle is not there, but there is a hole. Probably only gunk is holding the key in place.



The only noticeable difference is shown in the following picture. There is a stud that prevents the lower spindle lock wedge from falling out of the casting.



