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Fractures have been reported on the frames of Kawasaki ER6s

Fractures Reported on Kawasaki ER6 Frames

By [Chris Newbigging](#)

Consumer news

25 July 2007 09:30

If you're a Kawasaki ER-6 owner, walk outside and check the frame for cracks.

A number of riders on the continent have experience the issue, but it has since emerged that a UK bike has suffered the same problem.

The problem lies with the engine mount on the right hand side (at the front of the tube that wraps around the cylinder), where a weld can split on the underside of the tube. The problem can be difficult to spot (ER6-F models will require the right hand side fairing to be removed), but tell tale signs include paint flaking off and rust forming on the bare metal.

MCN reader James Mear's 2006 ER-6f has developed a crack on the engine mount. He told MCN: "I purchased a set of frame protectors, and when I was fitting the protectors I noticed a rust mark on the engine mounting weld. On further inspection I discovered it was cracked, it appears that the frame of the bike is wider than the engine and the engine bolt is twisting the bracket and welds as it is tightened to take up the gap."

MCN contacted Kawasaki to find out if the issue is a danger to other ER-6 owners – this is its response.

"Kawasaki Motors UK values the feedback from MCN. In recent months there have been some reports regarding alleged problems with the frame on the ER-6n, primarily in mainland Europe. As a responsible manufacturer, Kawasaki has taken these reports very seriously. After careful investigation and testing, we were able to determine the problem was related to installation of aftermarket mushrooms. Should any action be required in the UK market, we will take the necessary action."

- Has your ER-6 suffered frame problems? Contact MCN on 01733 468026.

<http://www.motorcyclenews.com/MCN/News/newsresults/mcn/2007/July/july16-22/jul2007fracturesreportedonkawasaker6frames/?&R=EPI-92862>

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Kawasaki Facing Pressure over ER-6 Frames



Cracks have appeared on an MCN reader's ER-6

By Chris Newbigging

Consumer news

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Pressure is mounting on Kawasaki to take action over cracking ER-6 frame brackets after a crash bung maker and an owner dismiss Kawasaki's explanation for the issue so far.

The apparent problem lies with the engine mounting bracket on the right hand side – on 2006 model Kawasaki ER-6n and ER-6f machines owners across the globe have reported splitting welds.

Owners on specialist ER-6 websites have attributed the problem to incorrect frame/engine spacing, allowing the bracket to bend when the engine mounting bolt is torqued down.

Kawasaki responded to a story in MCN July 25, saying "After careful investigation and testing, we were able to determine the problem was related to installation of aftermarket mushrooms."

ER6-f owner James Mears is not convinced.

"My view is that when you tighten the engine bolt it twists the bracket which snaps under stress. When you undo the bolt, the bracket springs open and opens a gap. The spacer is about 6mm too short. And to fit crash bungs you don't have to undo the main engine mounting bolt."

Kawasaki dealers have been sent a 'Technical Service' bulletin relating to the issue. It says the problem could be caused by bungs concentrating vibrations in the brackets – but also says that an early design of genuine Kawasaki crash protectors can also cause the problem.

The document instructs dealers to remove old design mushrooms and replace them with revised bungs – and to remind customers with aftermarket protectors that any problems relating to their fitting would not be covered under warranty.

Crash protector manufacturer R&G Racing has witnessed what is being called 'pinching' first hand. Sales Director Simon Hughes told MCN:

"We had to change our kits because it didn't fit the 07's. When you take the engine bolt out the frame does ping out, but that happens on a lot of bikes to allow you to get the spacer in. "

"When we were told our previous kit didn't fit the 07 frame, we looked at the lug on the frame, and it's been beefed up massively. There's no other reason why you would beef up that weld other than to strengthen the frame – it's obvious looking at it that it's much stronger."

Kawasaki marketing director Martin Lambert said: "I think you will find that the frame has not changed. The bulletin was related to ER-6n as this what was highlighted in the European experience related by MCN in the original story.

Mr Mear's motorcycle is an ER-6f and we are now investigating this with him as a separate issue.

<http://www.motorcyclenews.com/MCN/News/newsresults/mcn/2007/August/august6-12/aug0707er6frameskawasakifacepressure/?&R=EPI-93341>

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Kawasaki Replaces MCN Reader's Cracked ER-6 Frame

By MCN News Desk

Consumer news

09 August 2007 16:23

Kawasaki is to replace the cracked frame of an MCN reader's ER-6f as a goodwill gesture but has not acknowledged a fault with the model.

The firm has attributed failures on the ER-6n naked version to vibration caused by aftermarket crash protectors.

MCN reader James Mear has been told a similar failure on his 2006 ER-6f faired version – which has the same frame - is not covered under warranty but that it will nevertheless be replaced.

We report in the current issue of MCN that owners on specialist ER-6 website have attributed the problem to a gap between the engine and frame bracket which pinches closed when the bolt is tightened, placing stress on the frame tube. Mears said: "The dealer said that Kawasaki is going to replace the frame of my bike 'in kind' but not as a warranty claim."

He added: "Thanks to MCN. I don't know if it's a result of the item in this week's MCN or not but it looks like I have got a good outcome. I hope they deal with any other similar cases fairly."

Kawasaki dealer Drayton Croft Motorcycles, in Hinckley, Leicestershire, confirmed the offer of a new frame had been made to Mears.

A Kawasaki spokesman said the firm was investigating reports of failures on the ER-6f model. "We're agreed to have a look at that frame as part of the investigation," he said. "Obviously we need to give him a frame so that he's got a motorcycle to ride."

<http://www.motorcyclenews.com/MCN/News/newsresults/mcn/2007/August/august6-12/aug0907kawasakireplacesmcnreaderscrackeder6frame/?R=EPI-93423>

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