

Narrative Guide to References

A selected set of technical reference guides are described below to assist readers with the analysis of broadcast codes, interpretation of regular production options (RPO) and/or identification of part numbers. References exist for many Corvette generations but this guide lists those specifically useful for late-model C3 owners who wish to supplement the *Corvette Buildsheet Book* with references that will aid their understanding and interpretation of manifest data. References are included that would support and expand the ability of enthusiasts to understand Corvette build records and gain insights into Corvette assembly and production methods.

- **Assembly Instruction Manual** (AIM) by Chevrolet Motor Division. Produced each model year for factory workers with the intended use for the assembly line, an AIM is a primary technical tool for owners. The AIM is a must for the serious hobbyist and is filled with illustrations, assembly instructions and part numbers. The manual shows how the car was built at the point of assembly and is organized by major system followed by subassemblies. The AIM is reprinted courtesy of Chevrolet Motor Division and distributed through Corvette suppliers.
- **Corvette Black Book** by Michael Antonick. This handbook is updated annually and presents specifications by model year. For each model year, power teams are referenced; model year changes highlighted, regular production options (RPO) along with quantities, retail cost and exterior and interior colors and codes listed. The size is designed for the back pocket and intended to be used as a field guide. It is particularly useful when the reader wishes to understand the equipment installed with a base-equipped Corvette.
- **NCRS Volume 2: 1968-1982 Corvette Specifications Guide** by John Amgwert. The NCRS publication details broadcast code data by year, and although not complete for late model years, may be the best guide for broadcast codes. A pocket guide, it is condensed and measures 5½ by 4¼. It is an indispensable guide in the field.
 - The guide details VIN production series, RPO options by model year, paint colors and codes, interior color combinations, serial numbers, date codes, engine RPOs with matching axle options, LOF Glass date codes, etc.
 - Data is sorted by both year and also by mechanical systems such as Delco Remy Ignition Distributors by year and part number.
- **NCRS Corvette Technical Information Manual & Judging Guides**. This series is for the owner who seeks current information that describes the Corvette “as built by St. Louis” (or Bowling Green in later years) this series will help instruct by groups of model years. Select manuals are available by model year judging groups (1973-74, 1975-77, 1978-79, 1980-82).
 - This series is a nice technical reference and intended to be used as a judging manual rather than a restoration guide. Having said that, its contents serve as an invaluable guide to describe a typical Corvette as it left the assembly plant. When known and properly authenticated, guides include assembly deviation observations.
 - As a judging manual, it leans heavy on verbiage, as it dutifully describes how a component looked, felt and was presented as it left the assembly plant. It is not intended for the novice seeking an overview. The guides vary but there are limited graphics, pictures and illustrations. Newer editions strive to add photos and illustrate the verbal descriptions.

