

# bookreview

By Mike Vaughn and  
Larry Azevedo

an **MTFCA**  
exclusive

In 1919, Ford Motor Company produced a tool called the Coil Unit and Magneto Test Stand. Now, 100 years later, they're known as a Hand Cranked Coil Tester or HCCT. Ford had similar machines in their factories to test and adjust coils, but this new tool let auto repair shops quickly and easily test and repair a customer's coils.

Most Ford agents owned one and many originals can still be found. In addition to testing coils, they were used to adjust magneto horns, check an engine's magneto output, and check spark plugs. Various versions were built by other manufacturers, and homemade HCCTs soon followed.

Until now, very little information on HCCTs has been assembled or documented. This book not only delves into the history and workings of Ford's original HCCT, it diagrams the components of the machine, and offers step-by-step information on how to use one.

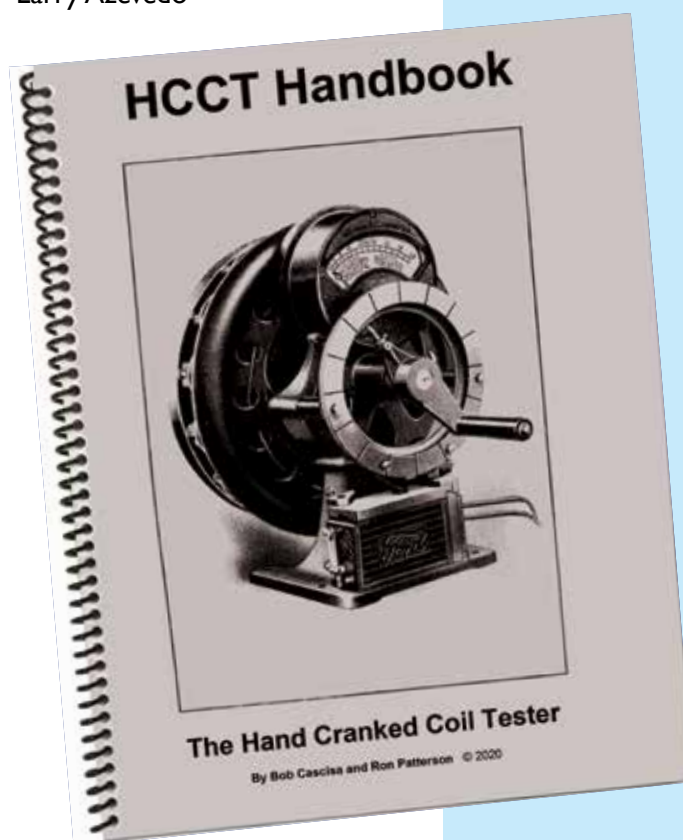
Detailed comments, illustrations, and photos of about a dozen known manufacturers' coil testers are featured. The book also includes photos and data on many unknown brands, homemade, and one-of-a-kind manufactured testers.

The book contains excellent wiring schematics and helpful information for anyone restoring a venerable HCCT. In addition to

more than 200 color photos, the authors have sprinkled the book with fun facts, pithy quotes from Henry Ford and Thomas Edison, helpful tips, and historic ads and literature.

We highly recommend this book for anyone restoring an original or copycat HCCT or who might be interested in building their own from scratch. It is also a must-have reference book for those currently using an HCCT in their shop.

Ron Patterson and Bob Cascisa are to be commended for this very well put together publication that will benefit Model T hobbyist for years to come. □



**HCCT Handbook**  
*The Hand Cranked  
Coil Tester*

by Bob Cascisa  
and Ron Patterson

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765-373-3106