



Issue Date: October 17, 2013

Condition: Continuous, measurable charge voltage fluctuation

Some vehicles may experience charge voltage fluctuation where the regulator is unable to maintain charge voltage level resulting in varying charge voltage, above and below specifications. This condition can occur most often on older vehicles because wiring connections and cables between alternator, regulator, and batteries can deteriorate. Inspect the condition of wiring and terminations, and look for signs of wire fatigue, chafing, corrosion, and loose connections.

Battery imbalance caused by one or more defective or improperly connected batteries can also contribute to charge voltage fluctuation.

To restore proper system function:

- ⇒ test batteries and replace as necessary.
- ⇒ test all cable connections between alternator and batteries. Replace as necessary.
- ⇒ on vehicles equipped with remote-mounted regulators: If condition does not improve after testing as indicated above and replacing parts as necessary, disconnect extended wiring harness and move regulator to alternator, securely connecting it directly to the harness at alternator. If condition improves, move regulator to alternator permanently.

Please file this CEN Tech Tip with your CEN Literature.
Please forward a copy of this information to the appropriate people in your company.