



# Technical Service Bulletin

AUTOMOTIVE <> PASSENGER CAR  
ACCESSORY BELT DRIVE SYSTEM

## **BULLETIN #TSB\_018\_AU**

> PART NUMBER:

All

> MAKE/MODEL/YEAR:

All

## **REMOVAL/INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR HYDRAULIC TYPE TENSIONERS**



Typical Hydraulic Type Tensioner

### **DANGER! DO NOT DISASSEMBLE TENSIONER!**

- The hydraulic fluid encased in this tensioner may be under pressure. Disassembly of the tensioner could result in injury. Additionally, air may enter the fluid chamber resulting in erratic tensioner operation.
- **DO NOT CUT THE BELT OFF THE DRIVE! ALWAYS REMOVE THE BELT AFTER RELEASING TENSION ON THE DRIVE!**
- **PRIOR TO REMOVING THE DRIVE BELT, ENSURE YOU HAVE THE CORRECT DRIVE BELT ROUTING DIAGRAM. OE DRIVE BELT ROUTING IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE; THEREFORE, ALWAYS REFER TO THE ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT SERVICE MANUAL FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE ROUTING INFORMATION!**

**NOTE: THE ENCLOSED TENSIONER IS DESIGNED TO MATCH THE ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT TENSIONER INSTALLED ON YOUR VEHICLE. IF THE NEW TENSIONER DOESN'T APPEAR TO BE OF THE SAME PART DESIGN, DOUBLE-CHECK THE RECOMMENDED PART NUMBER FOR YOUR VEHICLE.**

## REMOVAL

- Compress the hydraulic strut by gently applying pressure on the designated fixture. **DO NOT FORCE THE STRUT! DAMAGE TO THE TENSIONER AND MOUNTING BOLT WILL OCCUR!** The amount of fluid that can pass through the orifice is fixed; therefore, it may take 5 seconds or more for the strut to fully compress.
- Do not throw away the mounting or installation bolt(s) from your original tensioner. Installation bolts are not a wear item and do not need to be replaced. Please re-use the original bolt(s) unless a new one is provided.

## SPECIAL INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

- Always refer to the Original Equipment Service Manual for installation bolt torque.

## INSTALLATION & INSPECTION

- After properly mounting the new tensioner, the hydraulic strut must be bled prior to installing the drive belt. This is done to verify that all air has been expelled from the fluid chamber, which in turn ensures proper tensioner operation. To bleed the tensioner, SLOWLY compress the strut until it bottoms out in the housing. Proceed by releasing pressure on the tensioner and allowing the strut to fully extend. Complete this procedure a total of **3 TIMES**.
- **AGAIN, DO NOT FORCE THE STRUT! DAMAGE TO THE TENSIONER AND MOUNTING BOLT WILL OCCUR! IT MAY TAKE 5 SECONDS OR MORE FOR THE STRUT TO FULLY COMPRESS AND ANOTHER 5 SECONDS OR MORE FOR THE STRUT TO FULLY EXTEND!**
- Once the tensioner bleeding procedure is complete, re-install the drive belt according to vehicle manufacturers' routing recommendation. As a final check, run the vehicle and make certain the belt is tracking properly on all pulleys. Pay particular attention to backside or flat pulleys in the drive. If the belt tracks to the edge of any pulley, inspect the drive for any signs of pulley or shaft misalignment. Ensure that no debris is present between the tensioner and its mounting surface that could cause misalignment of the tensioner pulley.

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