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GROUP: 08 - Electrical

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SUBJECT:

Charging System, Battery Diagnostic Tools and Warranty

OVERVIEW:

This information only bulletin discusses using the correct test equipment for testing batteries and charging systems, and also warranty reimbursement when battery replacements are necessary.

MODELS:

1996 - Current (All) All FCA Group Vehicles (EMEA only)

NOTE: This bulletin applies to vehicles within the following markets/countries: EMEA

SPECIAL TOOLS/EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:

Battery Tester	Midtronics EXP 813
Battery Tester	Midtronics GRX 3228

CAUTION! Using the incorrect battery charger which does not meet the minimum requirements for recharging batteries may not recharge the battery correctly and could damage the battery and/or the vehicles electrical components

DISCUSSION:

When testing batteries and charging systems, the correct battery tester and charger must be used. Dealers must follow service information for the proper procedures when testing the charging system and batteries. Also, the dealer must follow warranty policies and procedures for proper reimbursement for battery replacement. Refer to the appropriate regional warranty manual to obtain specific warranty reimbursement requirements. This may include specific data which must be recorded and/or specific documentation which may be required to be attached to the work order. In the event the warranty policies and procedures are not followed, warranty reimbursement could be declined or charged back.

Knowing what type of battery that is in the vehicle will help determine which battery tester and charger to use. The type of the battery is always listed on the battery label.

- A – Flooded - Free electrolyte
- A1 - Pb - For standard applications
- A2 - Pb Heavy Duty, for Start/Stop applications
- B – Absorbed Glass Matt (AGM) with absorbent material between the plates
- B1 - Pb AGM with flat plates, for standard and Start/Stop applications
- B2 - Pb AGM Spiral with spiral plates, for standard Start/Stop applications

Preliminary Verification Conditions

1. Before connecting the battery tester, make sure the following conditions are met:
 - The engine is turned off.
 - Turn off all electrical devices, except for permanent key-off loads.
 - Verify there are no charging system Diagnostic Trouble Codes (DTCs) in any control modules.
2. Check the battery tester for:
 - The battery tester has the latest available software in it.
 - The battery tester leads are in good condition.
3. Check the battery in the vehicle for:
 - No external battery damage.
 - No corrosion on the battery cables.

POLICY:

Information Only Service Bulletin