TSB: DT-2008-10-02

Date: 10/2/2008



Technical Service Bulletin

Product Description: AMSOIL Synthetic Universal Automatic Transmission Fluid (ATF) Subject: Erratic shifting problems in Chrysler automatic transmissions occurring immediately after changing transmission fluid

OBJECTIVE:

Inform AMSOIL customers of problems inherent to Chrysler automatic transmission performance if proper mechanical procedures are not performed following automatic transmission services, and provide Chrysler recommendations for preventing and correcting these problems.

ISSUES:

Bump shifts, or very hard down shifts, will occur in Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge automatic transmissions if the proper mechanical procedures are not performed following service work. This includes, but is not limited to, transaxle replacement, transmission control module (TCM) replacement, solenoid replacement, clutch plate and/or seal replacement, valve body replacement or repair, and oil and filter changes.

TECHNICAL DISCUSSION:

Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge have issued TSB 18-020-02, TSB 18-037-05, TSB 21-005-03 REV.A and TSB 21-006-03 REV.A to explain the issue in detail, as well as the necessary procedure to prevent and correct the problem. Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge owners who service their automatic transmissions are advised to have the transmission control module flash memory restored to OEM standards following completion of the service work. This type of service must be completed by a Chrysler, Jeep or Dodge dealership or qualified service department trained in Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge applications.

RECOMMENDATION:

AMSOIL INC. has determined that the problem with hard shifting evident immediately after servicing Chrysler automatic transmissions with AMSOIL ATF is due to the transmission control module record of the mechanical service. Failure to reprogram the TCM flash memory following automatic transmission services will result in the outlined performance issue.

AMSOIL Synthetic Universal Automatic Transmission Fluid (ATF) is formulated to exceed the performance requirements for domestic and foreign automatic transmission fluids, and it is recommended for transmissions requiring MOPAR ATF+ type oils, including ATF+3 (MS-7176) and ATF+4 (MS-9602) fluid specifications required by Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge, as well as many other domestic and foreign specifications.

AMSOIL INC. recommends having the TCM flash memory reprogrammed (flashed) or the Quick Learn procedure performed after servicing any Chrysler, Jeep or Dodge automatic transmissions from the year 1992 to present. Per Chrysler, the Quick Learn procedure recalibrates the electronic TCM system to provide the best shifting operation. Quick Learn must be performed by the dealer or transmission repair shop using the DRBIII scan tool and scan tool cartridge. The procedure will correct and prevent the abnormal shifting issues that occur when servicing automatic transmissions. This procedure, and the solution to remedy the shifting problem, cannot be accomplished just by disconnecting the battery terminals.

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Approval Date: 10/22/08

Distribution: __Internal _X_All

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