



TECH TIPS

Dixie Part Numbers: Various

Applications: Recently a technical document came across my desk and while it was limited to one particular manufacture the details contained would apply to almost all applications, hence I have put this as a general *Tech Tip*.

Condition: The operator of the vehicle may complain of various intermittent conditions, including but not limited to:

- intermittent crank/no start
- intermittent warning light on (malfunction indicator lamp, service vehicle soon or any other warning light)
- intermittent service messages appearing

Upon inspection the technician typically will not be able to duplicate the problem.

Cause: A possible cause for the above conditions is deterioration of the terminal connectors due to vibration, thermal cycling, oxidization and/or loose components and wiring harnesses that may shift around and cause the connectors to loosen and open up.

Correction: Use the appropriate scan tool and see if there are any diagnostic trouble codes in the system. Correct the issues first and note what control module/wiring harness they pertain to. Inspect the wiring harness connectors and device connectors for fretting corrosion. This will appear as dark smudges or smears on electrical connectors in severe cases. It is recommended that the connectors be cleaned with a clean nylon brush (brass or steel will scratch the terminals and reduce the amount of time for the problems to reoccur). Apply dielectric lubricant LIGHTLY, adding too much will create a seal and may cause an air bubble to push the terminals apart.