TECH TIPS

Dixie Part Numbers: A-8547 A-8850 A-8898 A-8953
A-8954 A-8955 A-80032 A-80362
A-80395 A-80397

Applications:
2000 – 2005 Acura RSX 2.0L
2001 – 2005 Acura EL 1.7L
2005 – 2012 Acura **ALL MODELS**
2001 – 2005 Honda Civic 1.7L
2003 – 2004 Honda CRV 2.4L
2005 – 2012 Honda **ALL MODELS**

Condition:

Some auto-electric specialists may comment that the rated amperage for the alternator can not be reached when the alternator is tested on test bench but that the light does not come on.

Some technicians may observe that when testing the alternator on the vehicle the full output that the alternator is rated for is not produced.

Cause:

The voltage regulator in the alternators has been designed to not put out full amperage until the vehicle computer sends a signal to the light wire. This was done so that during cold starting the alternator would only charge at 70 to 80% of its rated capacity. **For information purposes only, it is not recommended to perform this test on a manual bench as regulator damage may occur.** In order to reach full output the vehicle's computer performs one of the following once the engine is started, depending on the year of manufacture one or more of the following events occurs:

- The lamp terminal is grounded
- The ignition terminal is disconnected (opened)

Correction:

The alternator can only be fully load tested with a proper computer simulator such as the D&V Electronics ALT-7, ALT-98 or the vehicle manufacturers recommended tester. To test the alternator's performance, all diagnostics must be done using the manufacturer prescribed procedures.

Rev: 20120410 Added 2005 – 2012 applications per OE bulletin