TECHNICAL BULLETIN TB-80

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Important notification

Your vehicle has a dual mass flywheel and you need to carefully check the flywheel before just replacing the failed starter motor. Most probably the damaged flywheel is the cause of the failed starter and not changing the damaged flywheel will result in early starter motor failures.

A Dual Mass Flywheel is basically two components (the primary & secondary mass) linked together by a damping mechanism within the secondary mass and located by the central carrier bearing. The damping mechanism is there to absorb the torque loads of the crankshaft and to help deliver a smooth transfer to the road wheels via the clutch.

As time passes and the vehicle's mileage increases the damping mechanism softens and weakens. As the mileage increases the damping mechanism becomes weaker to the point where the movement between the primary and secondary masses becomes excessive.

When this happens the flywheel tends to vibrate or rattle when driving.

The result can be poor starting and running from the timing taken from the flywheel.

And failure of drive, blamed as clutch failure, when really the lack of drive is because the two parts of the dual mass flywheel have separated.

The starter motor do not destroy dual mass flywheels but the flywheel can distroy the starter motor.