

Tech tips

■ Beginning with the 1997 Mitsubishi model year, the pull-up voltage of the alternator FR terminal changed from 5 volts to 12 volts. A service manual revision has been made concerning alternator testing for the following vehicles:

- 1997 to 1998 Mirage
- 2002 to 2005 Lancer
- 2003 to 2005 Lancer Evolution
- 2003 to 2005 Outlander
- 1999 to 2005 Galant
- 2001 to 2005 Eclipse/Eclipse Spyder
- 2004 to 2005 Endeavor

Some multiport fuel injection system diagnostic procedures include checking the voltage at the alternator FR terminal. The correct voltage reading, when measured between the alternator FR terminal and ground, should be battery positive voltage (12V). This expected voltage value is incorrectly specified in Group 13 of the affected vehicle service manuals. Refer to TSB no. 05-13-006 for more information.

■ Owners of 2005 to 2007 Saturn Relay minivans may complain that the headlights and/or interior lights flicker. Saturn says the flickering usually occurs at idle when accessories are in use, and is most likely due to fluctuations in alternator output. A defective voltage regulator is where the final blame lies. Installing an upgraded regulator from a special kit (part no. 25854910) should eliminate the problem immediately.

—Submitted by Ken Plourde, Guy's Electric Service, South Windsor, Conn.

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