

## **CAUTION**

To reduce the chance of personal injury and/or property damage, the following instructions must be carefully observed.

Proper service and repair are important to the safety of the service technician and the safe, reliable operation of all System4 Electronic Fuel Injection equipped engines. If part replacement is necessary, the part must be replaced with one of the same part number or with an equivalent part. Do not use a replacement part of lesser quality.

The service procedures recommended and described in this service manual are effective methods of performing service and repair. Some of these procedures require the use of tools specifically designed for the purpose.

Accordingly, anyone who intends to use a replacement part, service procedure, or tool which is not recommended by the manufacturer, must first determine that neither his safety nor the safe operation of the vehicle will be jeopardized by the replacement part, service procedure or tool selected.

It is important to note that this manual contains various Cautions and Notices that must be carefully observed in order to reduce the risk of personal injury during service or repair, or the possibility that improper service or repair may damage the vehicle or render it unsafe. It is also important to understand that these 'Cautions' and 'Notices' are not exhaustive, because it is impossible to warn of all the possible hazardous consequences that might result from failure to follow these instructions.

# MARINE ELECTRONIC FUEL INJECTION

## (MEFI)

### DIAGNOSTIC MANUAL

At the beginning of each individual section is a Table of Contents which gives the page number on which each subject begins.

When reference is made in this manual to a brand name, number or specific tool, an equivalent product may be used in place of the recommended item.

All information, illustrations and specifications contained in this manual are based on the latest product information available at the time of publication approval. The right is reserved to make changes at any time without notice.

**NOTICE:** When fasteners are removed, always reinstall them at the same location from which they were removed. If a fastener needs to be replaced, use the correct part number fastener for that application. If the correct part number fastener is not available, a fastener of equal size and strength (or stronger) may be used. Fasteners that are not reused, and those requiring thread locking compound will be called out. The correct torque value must be used when installing fasteners that require it. If the above conditions are not followed, parts or system damage could result.

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SERVICE OPERATIONS  
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Ypsilanti, Michigan**

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## FOREWORD

This service manual includes general description, diagnosis, symptoms and on-board service procedures for the fuel control and ignition systems used on GM equipped Marine Electronic Fuel Injection (MEFI) engines.

## INTRODUCTION

The following manual has been prepared for effective diagnosis of the Marine Electronic Fuel Injection (MEFI) system.

All information, illustrations and specifications contained in this manual are based on the latest product information available at the time of publication approval. The right is reserved to make changes at any time without notice.

This manual should be kept in a handy place for ready reference. If properly used, it will meet the needs of technicians and boat owners.

**GM Powertrain Division service manuals are intended for the use by professional, qualified technicians. Attempting repairs or service without the appropriate training, tools and equipment could cause injury to you or others and damage to boat that may cause it not to operate safely and properly.**

## Section 1

## General Information

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## General Description

### Visual / Physical Inspection

**A careful visual and physical inspection must be performed as part of any diagnostic procedure. This can often lead to fixing a problem without further diagnostics.**

Inspect all vacuum hoses for correct routing, pinches, cracks or disconnects. Be sure to inspect hoses that are difficult to see. Inspect all the wires in the engine compartment for proper connections, burned or chafed spots, pinched wires or contact with sharp edges or hot manifolds. This visual/physical inspection is very important. It must be done carefully and thoroughly.

### Basic Knowledge and Tools Required

To use this manual most effectively, a general understanding of basic electrical circuits and circuit testing tools is required. You should be familiar with wiring diagrams, the meaning of voltage, ohms, amps and the basic theories of electricity. You should also understand what happens if a circuit becomes open, shorted to ground or shorted to voltage.

To perform system diagnostics, several special tools and equipment are required. Please become acquainted with the tools and their use before attempting to diagnose the system. Special tools that are required for system service are illustrated in this section.

### Electrostatic Discharge Damage

Electronic components used in control systems are often designed to carry very low voltage, and are very susceptible to damage caused by electrostatic discharge. It is possible for less than 100 volts of static electricity to cause damage to some electronic components. By comparison, it takes as much as 4,000 volts for a person to feel the zap of a static discharge.

There are several ways a person can become statically charged. The most common methods of charging are by friction and by induction. An example of charging by friction is a person sliding across a seat, in which a charge of as much as 25,000 volts can build up. Charging by induction occurs when a person with well insulated shoes stands near a highly charged object and momentarily touches ground. Charges of the same polarity are drained off, leaving the person highly charged with the opposite polarity. Static charges of either type can cause damage. Therefore, it is important to use care when handling and testing electronic components.

### Engine Wiring

When it is necessary to move any of the wiring, whether to lift wires away from their harnesses or move harnesses to reach some component, take care that all wiring is replaced in its original position and all harnesses are routed correctly. If clips or retainers break, replace them. Electrical problems can result from wiring or harnesses becoming loose and moving from their original positions, or from being rerouted.

### Engine Control Module (ECM) Self-Diagnostics

The Engine Control Module (ECM) performs a continuous self-diagnosis on certain control functions. This diagnostic capability is complemented by the diagnostic procedures contained in this manual. The ECM's language for communicating the source of a malfunction is a system of Diagnostic Trouble Codes (DTC's). The DTC's are identified by two sets of numbers. The first number, labeled a SPN, identifies the location of the problem and the second number, a FMI, identifies the type of problem is occurring at the location. When a malfunction is detected by the ECM, a DTC is set and the Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL) is illuminated.

### Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL)

The Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL) is designed to alert the operator that a problem has occurred and that the vehicle should be taken for service as soon as reasonably possible.

As a bulb and system check, the light will come "ON" with the key "ON," engine "OFF." When the engine is started, the light will turn "OFF." If the light remains "ON," the self-diagnostic system has detected a problem. If the problem goes away, the light will go out in most cases after 10 seconds, but a DTC will remain stored in the ECM.

When the light remains "ON" while the engine is running, or when a malfunction is suspected due to a drivability problem, the "On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) System Check" must be performed as the first step. These checks will expose malfunctions which may not be detected if other diagnostics are performed prematurely.

### Intermittent Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL)

In the case of an "intermittent" problem, the Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL) will light for 10 seconds, and then go out. However, the corresponding DTC will be stored in the memory of the ECM. When DTC's are set by an intermittent malfunction, they could be helpful in diagnosing the system.

If an intermittent DTC is cleared, it may or may not reset. If it is an intermittent failure, consult the "Diagnostic Aids" on the facing page of the corresponding DTC table. *Symptoms* section also covers the topic of "Intermittents." A physical inspection of the applicable sub-system most often will resolve the problem.

### Reading Diagnostic Trouble Codes (DTC's)

The provision for communicating with the ECM is the Data Link Connector (DLC) (Figure 1-1). It is part of the engine wiring harness, and is a 6-pin connector, which is electrically connected to the ECM. It is used in the assembly plant to receive information in checking that the engine is operating properly before it leaves the plant. The DTC(s) stored in the ECM's memory can be retrieved through a scan tool, a hand-held diagnostic scanner plugged into the DLC: or a PC based software program designed to interface with the ECM datastream.

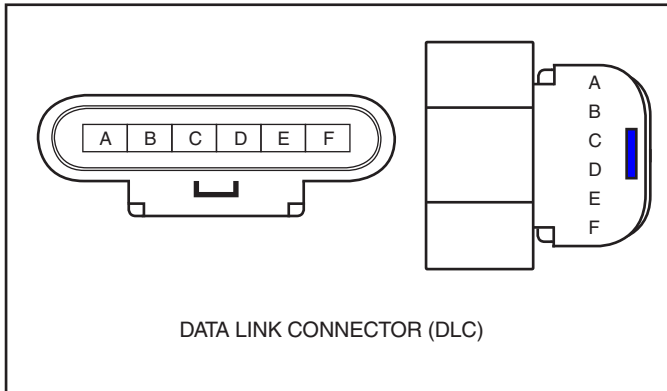


Figure 1-1 - Data Link Connector (DLC)

### On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) System Check

After the visual/physical inspection, the "On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) System Check" is the starting point for all diagnostic procedures. Refer to *Diagnosis* section.

The correct procedure to diagnose a problem is to follow two basic steps:

1. Are the on-board diagnostics working? This is determined by performing the "On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) System Check." Since this is the starting point for the diagnostic procedures, always begin here. If the on-board diagnostics are not working, the OBD system check will lead to a diagnostic table in the *Diagnosis* section to correct the problem. If the on-board diagnostics are working properly, the next step is:
2. Is there a DTC stored? If a DTC is stored, go directly to the number DTC table in the *Diagnosis* section. This will determine if the fault is still present.

### DLC Scan Tools

The ECM can communicate a variety of information through the DLC. This data is transmitted at a high frequency which requires a scan tool for interpretation.

With an understanding of the data which the scan tool displays, and knowledge of the circuits involved, the scan tool can be very useful in obtaining information which would be more difficult or impossible to obtain with other equipment.

A scan tool does not make the use of diagnostic tables unnecessary, nor do they indicate exactly where the problem is in a particular circuit. Diagnostic tables incorporate diagnostic procedures that are designed to function only with a scan tool or PC based scan program.

### Scan Tool Use With Intermittents

The scan tool provides the ability to perform a "wobble test" on wiring harnesses or components with the engine not running, while observing the scan tool display.

The scan tool can be plugged in and observed while driving the vehicle under the condition when the MIL turns "ON" or the engine drivability is poor. If the problem seems to be related to certain parameters that can be checked on the scan tool, they should be checked while driving the vehicle. If there does not seem to be any correlation between the problem and any specific circuit, the scan tool can be checked on each position, watching for a period of time to see if there is any change in the readings that indicates an intermittent operation.

The scan tool is also an easy way to compare the operating parameters of a poorly operating engine with those of a known good one. For example, a sensor may shift in value but not set a DTC. Comparing the sensor's readings with those of a known good identical vehicle may uncover the problem.

The scan tool has the ability to save time in diagnosis and prevent the replacement of good parts. The key to using the scan tool successfully for diagnosis lies in the technicians ability to understand the system they are trying to diagnose, as well as an understanding of the scan tool operation and limitations. The technician should read the tool manufacturer's operating manual to become familiar with the tool's operation.

### How Diagnostic Trouble Codes (DTC) Are Set

The ECM is programmed to receive calibrated voltage signals from the sensors. The voltage signal from the sensor may range from as low as 0.1 volt to as high as 4.9 volts. The sensor voltage signal is calibrated for engine application. This would be the sensor's operating parameter or "window." The ECM and sensors will be discussed further in the *ECM and Sensor* section.

If a sensor is within its operating or acceptable parameters (Figure 1-2), the ECM does not detect a problem. When a sensor voltage signal falls out of this "window," the ECM no longer receives a signal voltage within the operating "window." When the ECM does not receive the "window" voltage for a calibratable length of time, a DTC will be stored. The MIL will be illuminated and a known default value will replace the sensor value to restore engine performance.

### Clearing Diagnostic Trouble Codes

1. Install scan tool or P.C.
2. Start engine.
3. Select "clear DTC's" function.
4. Clear DTC's.
5. Turn ignition "OFF" for at least 20 seconds.
6. Turn ignition "ON" and read DTC's. If DTC's are still present, check "Notice" below and repeat procedure following from step 2.

**NOTICE:** When clearing DTC's with the use of a scan tool, the ignition must be cycled to the "OFF" position or the DTC's will not clear.

### Non-Scan Diagnosis Of Drivability Concerns (No DTC's Set)

If a drivability concern still exists after following the OBD system check and reviewing the Symptoms tables, an out of range sensor may be suspected. Because of the unique

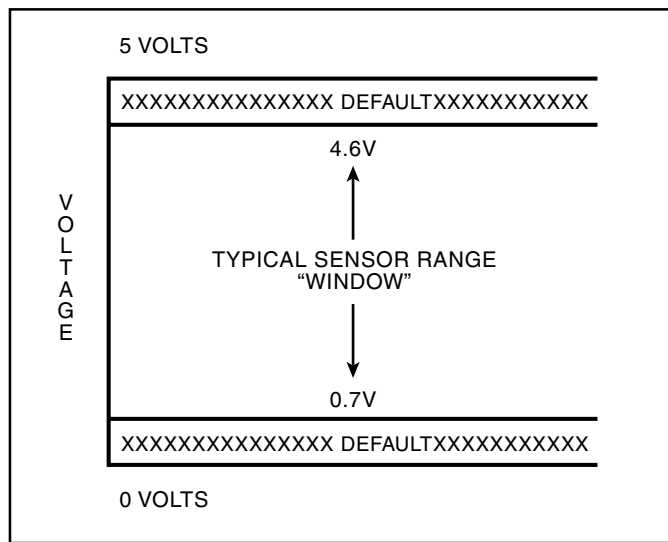


Figure 1-2 - Example of Sensor Normal Operation

design of the MEFI system, the ECM will replace sensed values with calibrated default values in the case of a sensor or circuit malfunction. By allowing this to occur, limited engine performance is restored until the vehicle is repaired. A basic understanding of sensor operation is necessary to be able to diagnose an out of range sensor.

If the sensor is out of range, but still within the operating "window" of the ECM, the problem will go undetected by the ECM and may result in a drivability concern.

A good example of this would be if the coolant sensor was reading incorrectly and indicating to the ECM that coolant temperature was at 50°F, but actual coolant temperature was at 150°F (Figure 1-3). This would cause the ECM to deliver more fuel than what was actually needed by the engine. This resulted in an overly rich condition, causing rough running. This condition would not have caused a DTC to set, as the ECM interprets this as within the operating "window."

To identify a sensor that is out of range, you may unplug the sensor electrical connector while the engine is running. After about 2 minutes, the DTC for that sensor will set, illuminate the MIL, and replace the sensed value with a calibrated default value. If at that point, a noticeable performance increase is observed, the non-scan DTC table for that particular sensor should be followed to correct the problem.

**NOTICE:** Be sure to clear each DTC after disconnecting and reconnecting each sensor. Failure to do so may result in a misdiagnosis of the drivability concern.

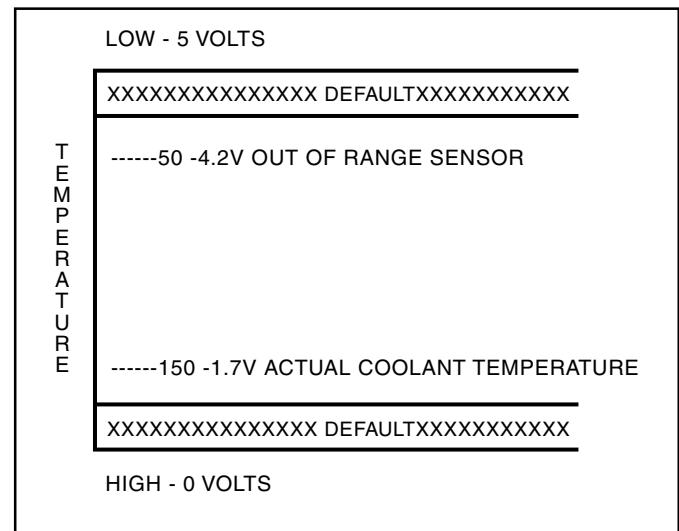


Figure 1-3 - Example of Shifted Sensor Operation

### Tools Needed To Service The System

Refer to Special Tools in this section for engine control tools for servicing the system.

## Service Precautions

The following requirements must be observed when working on engines.

1. Before removing any ECM system component, disconnect the negative battery cable.
2. Never start the engine without the battery being solidly connected.
3. Never separate the battery from the on-board electrical system while the engine is running.
4. Never separate the battery feed wire from the charging system while the engine is running.
5. When charging the battery, disconnect it from the vehicle's electrical system.
6. Ensure that all cable harnesses are connected solidly and the battery connections are thoroughly clean.
7. Never connect or disconnect the wiring harness at the ECM when the ignition is switched "ON."
8. Before attempting any electric arc welding on the vehicle, disconnect the battery leads and the ECM connector(s).
9. When steam cleaning engines, do not direct the nozzle at any ECM system components. If this happens, corrosion of the terminals or damage of components can take place.
10. Use only the test equipment specified in the diagnostic tables, since other test equipment may either give incorrect test results or damage good components.
11. All measurements using a multimeter must use a digital meter with a rating of 10 megaohm input impedance.
12. When a test light is specified, a "low-power" test light must be used. Do not use a high-wattage test light. While a particular brand of test light is not suggested, a simple test on any test light will ensure it to be safe for system circuit testing (Figure 1-4). Connect an accurate ammeter (such as the high-impedance digital multimeter) in series with the test light being tested, and power the test light ammeter circuit with the vehicle battery.

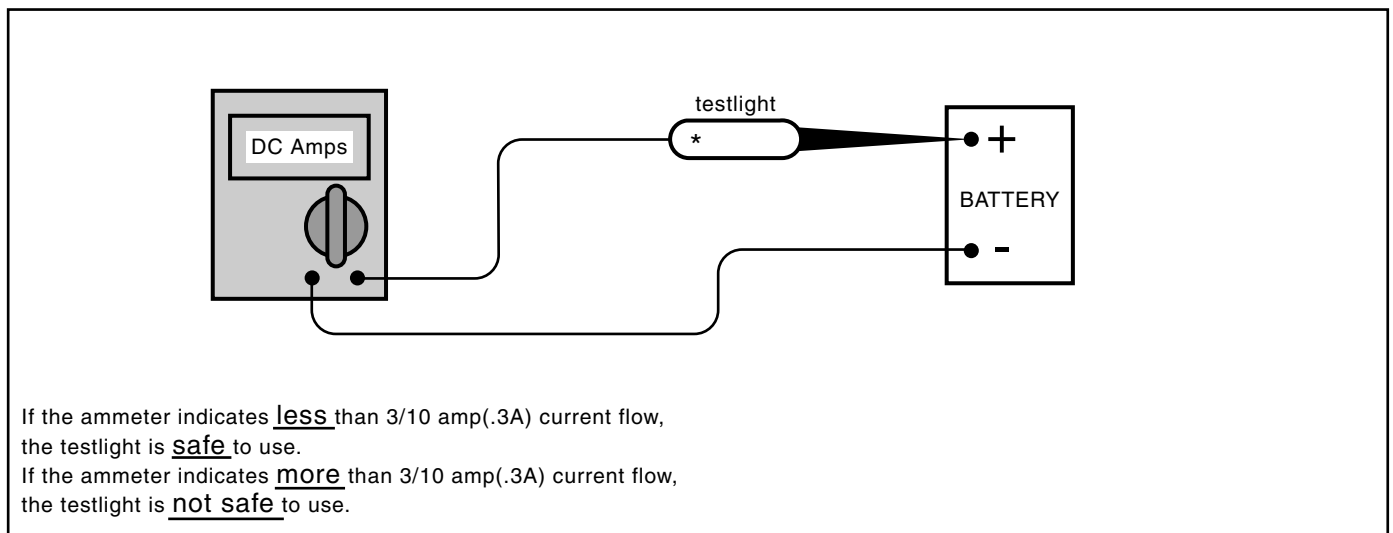


Figure 1-4 - Test Light Amperage Draw Test



Special Tools and Equipment

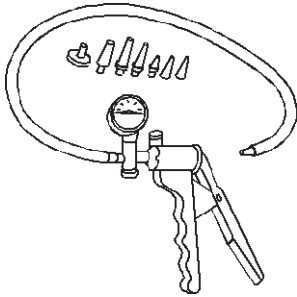

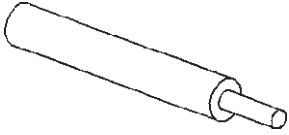
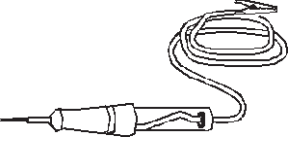

Illustration	Tool Number/Description
	<p>J 23738-A Vacuum Pump</p>
	
	<p>J 28742-A Weather Pack Terminal Remover</p>
	<p>J 34142-B Test Lamp</p>
	

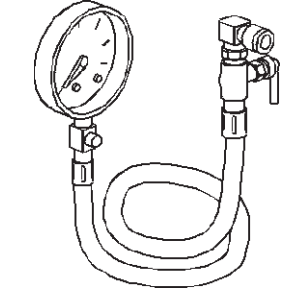
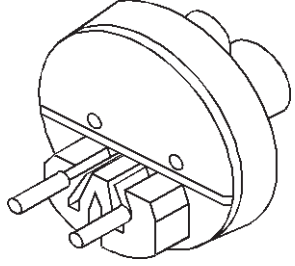
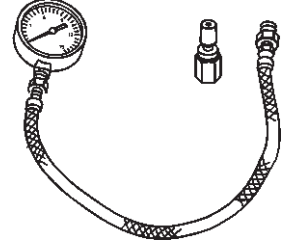
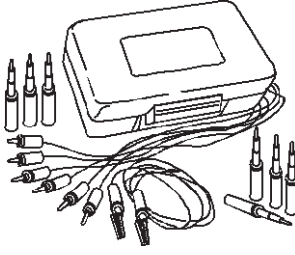
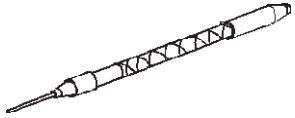
Illustration	Tool Number/Description
	<p>J 34730-1A Fuel Pressure Gauge</p>
	<p>J 34730-405 Injector Test Lamp</p>
	<p>J 35314-A Exhaust Back Pressure Tester</p>
	<p>J 35616-A Connector Test Adapter Kit</p>
	<p>J 35689-A Metri-Pack Terminal Kit</p>

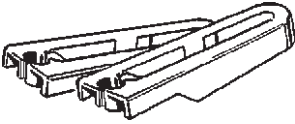
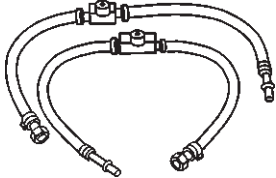
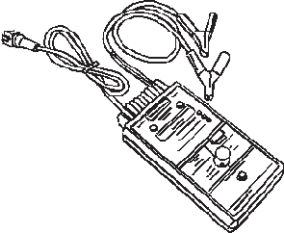
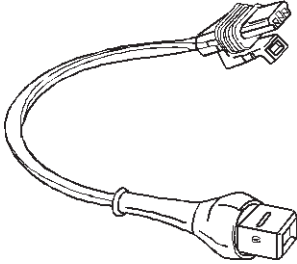
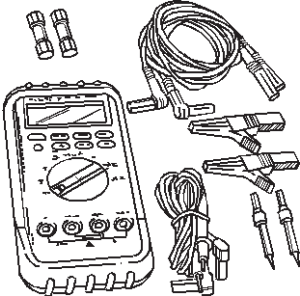

Illustration	Tool Number/Description
	<p>J 37088-A Fuel Line Quick Connect Separator</p>
	<p>J 37287 Inlet and Return Fuel Line Shut-Off Adapters</p>
	<p>J 39021 Fuel Injector Coil and Balance Tester</p>
	<p>J 39021-380 Fuel Injector Test Harness</p>
	<p>Fluke 78 or J 39200 Digital Multimeter</p>

Illustration	Tool Number/Description
	<p>Scan Tool or PC with Diagnostic Software</p>

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