

CONVERTERS DON'T FAIL ON THEIR OWN. BEFORE REPLACING A CONVERTER, MAKE SURE TO FOLLOW THESE STEPS:



1) Retrieve and repair all PCM trouble codes, check for any available TSBs or PCM re-flash updates.

On some vehicles, the manufacturer may have issued Technical Service Bulletins indicating re-flash updates of the PCM are required to resolve emissions problems.



2) Repair all exhaust system leaks.

A small leak anywhere in the exhaust system can draw a significant amount of oxygen into the system.



3) Make sure the vehicle is in proper fuel control. Proper AFR (Air / Fuel Ratio) is essential for converter efficiency.

- Front O₂ sensor should be switching around 450mV
- Rear O₂ sensor is above or equal to 450mV, typically 650 - 850mV
(On most applications)



4) Test for contamination. An internal leak in the cooling system would allow coolant to enter the exhaust system and poison the catalytic converter.



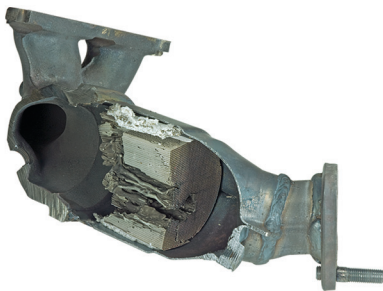
5) Choose the correct part for the application

States complying with Federal / EPA emissions standards use vehicle Year, Make, Model and Engine Size.
States complying with California Air Resources Board (CARB) emissions standards use vehicle Year, Make, Model, Engine Size and Engine Family Number (EFN).

Failure to follow these recommendations may result in a recurrence of the original emissions-related problem and could damage the new converter.

COMMON NON-WARRANTABLE CONVERTER FAILURES

OVERHEATED, MELTED OR BROKEN



POTENTIAL CAUSES:

- Misfires
 - Low compression
 - Poor spark, or no spark
- AFR cylinder imbalance

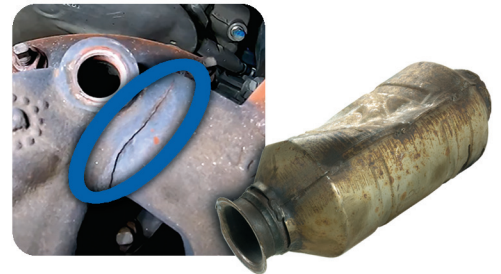
COATED / OIL-FOULED SUBSTRATE



POTENTIAL CAUSES:

- Excessive carbon build-up in exhaust
- Internal coolant leaks (head / intake gasket)
- Use of non-converter-safe gasket sealants
- Excessive oil consumption (burning oil)
- Improper fuels or additives (diesel)

STRUCTURAL DAMAGE



POTENTIAL CAUSES:

- Corrosion
- Thermal shock
- Metal fatigue / Stress fractures
- Cracked manifolds can cause false O₂ readings
- Stripped O₂ Sensor threads
- Flex pipe failure