

CARDONE™ ProTech®

Supporting Today's Vehicle Technician



Mis-Diagnosed Power Steering Pump Noise

Application

1992-93 CHEVROLET AND GMC TRUCK C/K, S/T MODELS
1992-93 OLDSMOBILE BRAVADA WITH 4.3L, 5.0L, 5.7L ENGINES
CARDONE part numbers: 20-661, 7803, 7824, 7828, 7832, 7877, 7901, 7918, 7924, 7931, 7933, 7938, 7943, 7950, 7985, 7987, 7999, 8301, 8703, 8704, 8705, 8713, 8712, 8724, 8749, 8756.

Problem

A whine noise emanating at the front of the vehicle that appears to be coming from the power steering pump.

Cause

The noise may actually be the result of a failed bearing in the alternator.

Solution

The following procedure can help determine the source of the noise by isolating the power steering pump from the alternator (GM reference bulletin 463201).

1. Isolate the power steering pump from the alternator by installing an accessory drive belt off of a 3.4L equipped 1993 or 1994 Camaro or Firebird. Install the diagnosis belt as shown in FIGURE 1.
2. Run the engine and listen for the noise. Do not drive the vehicle with this belt attached. If the noise is gone, the power steering system is most likely at fault. If the noise remains, proceed to diagnose the remaining elements of the accessory drive including the generator.
3. After the noise is successfully corrected, remove the accessory drive belt used for diagnosis.
4. Install the original accessory drive belt as shown in FIGURE 2.

