



TECH TIP

Hybrid Vehicle Warning

We have been informed that problems have been created by using Leak Check Dye on hybrid electric vehicle compressors.

The new hybrid electric vehicles are using an ester based lubricant that is non-conductive (does not carry an electric current). This is very important to the operation of the A/C system. This can also cause a safety concern.

Toyota indicates that when leak check dye is injected into the system, this can cause rapid compressor failure. The dye evidently changes the lubricant's conductivity and can possibly cause a flow of electricity to pass through the a/c system and cause the compressor to fail.

The answers for this problem are not complete as of yet, but for now, no additives should be installed in any AC system on hybrid electric vehicles.

We are also researching the correct refrigerant lubricant to use in these systems. At this point, approved lubricants are only available from the OE dealer. We will send more information as it becomes available.