

Instrument Panel, Gauges and Warning Indicators: By Symptom Instruments - Digital Dash Flickers/Inoperative

Classification: EL89-002

Section: Electrical System

Reference: TECHNICAL BULLETIN TS89-017

Models: 1985-86 300ZX (Z31)

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DIGITAL DASH FLICKERS/INOPERATIVE

APPLIED MODELS:

1985-86 300ZX (Z31) with Digital Dash

SERVICE INFORMATION

This Bulletin provides specific troubleshooting information for the Digital Dash (Z31) Power Unit (Part Number 24821-01P11) in cases where a customer complains of the following:

- ^ Digital display flickers (intermittently, on and off).
- ^ Digital display does not operate.
- ^ Fuel level/trip odometer/distance-to-empty intermittent or inoperative.

Follow Test Procedure, "Power Unit Check," found on Pg. E1-77 of the 1986 300 ZX Service Manual:

- A. If measured voltage or continuity is not correct, the Power Unit is faulty and must be repaired/replaced.

Note:

In cases where intermittent display operation is experienced, the voltage or continuity checks may, falsely, appear OK.

- B. In most cases, the failure of the Power Unit is caused by cold solder or cracked solder at the joint formed between the pin connectors and the printed circuit board foil.

The following may be used to repair those units which have defective soldered joints:

1. Remove Power Unit from vehicle.
2. Remove the seven (7) screws which hold the assembly together. Note location of "Star Washer" prior to disassembly.
3. Locate the 28 Pin Connector Socket which protrudes through the bottom side of the printed circuit board.

NOTE:

Resoldering delicate electronic components requires care and precision! A 25 watt (maximum) soldering iron, fitted with a fine pencil tip and 60/40 Rosin Core Solder must be utilized.

Carefully apply heat and, simultaneously, touch the solder to each of the 28 pins until each joint is adequately covered. The goal is to apply only enough solder to create a tight pin-to-circuit foil joint.

NOTE:

The gap between circuit foil "paths" is narrow. Be careful to apply a small, metered amount of new solder to the pin. Too much solder may bridge the path and cause a short circuit.

4. Reassemble Power Unit, ensuring that "Star Washer" is properly placed between the circuit board's ground lug and the aluminum cover plate. Apply Loctite Threadlocker 290 (or equivalent) to screws and retighten evenly.
5. Reinstall Power Unit. Gently reinsert the wire harness plug. Retest unit according to the voltage and continuity checks outlined in the 1986 300ZX , Service Manual, pg. E1-77. If not satisfactory, the Power Unit should be replaced.