

# MERCURY MARINE INSTALLATION/TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

**Mercury Marine P/N: 878768**

This unit replaces P/N's: 18-5828, 193-4093, 584093, 585219

**NOTICE!** This product is designed to be installed by a professional marine mechanic. Mercury Marine cannot be held liable for injury or damage resulting from improper installation, abuse, neglect or misuse of this product.

**DO NOT USE A MAINTAINENCE FREE, AGM OR DRY CELL BATTERY WITH THIS TYPE REGULATOR/RECTIFIER!!!**

**WARNING!!! NEVER DISCONNECT THE BATTERY WHILE THE ENGINE IS RUNNING AS THIS WILL BURN OUT THE REGULATOR/RECTIFIER. *If the boat is equipped with a battery switch, make sure that it is a make before break type.***

1. Disconnect the battery and all wires from the regulator.
2. Remove the old rectifier/regulator. (Note: On some engines, it may be necessary to remove the flywheel first.)
3. Thoroughly clean all ground connections and regulator mounting area.
4. Install the new regulator using the new gasket.
5. Reconnect all wires except the battery cables.
6. Reconnect the battery.

## Testing regulator/rectifiers on the engine

1. With all wires connected and the engine running at approximately 1500 RPM, check the DVA voltage from each yellow wire to engine ground. The two readings have to be within 2 volts of each other (i.e. if one is reading 20 volts, the other has to read between 18 and 22 volts). If the readings are not equal, go to step 3. If they are equal, go to step 2.
2. Check the DVA voltage from the yellow wires to the red wire going to the solenoid. The two readings must be within 2 volts of each other. If the readings are unequal, go to step 3. If they are equal on both this step and step 1, the rectifier (or rectifier/regulator) and battery charging portion of the stator should be good.
3. If the readings are unequal, mark across the connection between the stator and rectifier on the low side. Turn the engine off and swap the stator leads. Crank the engine up and retest. The component that has the marked wire with the low reading is bad.
4. At 800-1000 RPM, check output on the gray wire, reading should be at least 8 volts with a DVA meter. A low reading usually indicates a bad regulator if the system is charging the battery.

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## Checking maximum output

1. Install an ammeter capable of reading the maximum output in line on the red wire connected to the starter solenoid.
2. Connect a load bank to the battery.
3. In the water or on a Dynamometer, start the engine and bring the RPM up to approximately 3500.
4. Turn on the load bank switches to increase the battery load to match the rated output of the stator (35 amps).
5. Check the ammeter.
6. If the amperage is low,
  - A) Check the purple wire for voltage while the engine is running. You should see the same voltage as the battery.
  - B) Connect a jumper wire from the Positive battery cable to the purple wire and recheck the ammeter. If the amperage is now correct, there is a problem in the harness or keyswitch.
7. If the amperage is correct, but the battery voltage remains low, replace the battery.

## Bench test

- A) *Diode plate check:* Test the forward diodes between the two yellow wires and the red wire just like you would on a regular rectifier. You should get a reading one way but not the other. Check the resistance from each of the yellow wires to case ground, you should have a high reading, typically in the M range. The red wire should not read to ground or show a very high reading, 25M ohms or more.
- B) *Tachometer Circuit:* Check the ohms resistance between the gray wire and engine ground. You should read approximately 10K (10,000) ohms. Gray to red, and gray to the yellow wires should be a high reading, usually in the M range.

Thank you for using Mercury Marine

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