

## **DONMAR TSB: Seat Heater PreSale Tech Info**

While seat heaters are nearly universal in application, there are several factors to consider in advance of selling a seat heater installation to your customers, which may effect the final outcome of the job. Sometimes it is difficult to determine these details in advance of actually examining the vehicle and removing the seat upholstery. The following tips and warnings are provided to assist you with pre-sale and initial inspection. *Please follow the manufacturers written installation instructions included with each kit.*

### **1. Occupant Classification System (OCS) Sensors**

OCS Sensors may be located in the seat frame, embedded in the seat cushion, or mounted on top of the seat cushion (just below the upholstery). Removal of the seat skin may be required to determine the actual sensor location. *For seats with the OCS tape sensors on top of the cushion, DO NOT INSTALL the seat bottom portion of the seat heater. Install only the seat back portion.*

Typically, these sensors are found only in the passenger seat.

### **2. Avoiding OCS/Computer Resets**

Due to sensitive computer integrated OCS sensors in late model cars, it is VERY important to **DISCONNECT the vehicle battery [at the ground terminal] PRIOR to disconnecting ANY seat mounting bolts or wiring.** Complete ALL work and reconnect all wire harnesses before reconnecting the vehicle battery or turning on the ignition. Be extremely careful when disconnecting and reconnecting any wiring harness plugs. Failure to follow this procedure will require a computer reset, which can only be performed by the vehicle manufacturer's dealer service department. It is still possible that a computer reset will be required, therefore it is recommended that you advise your customers in advance.

### **3. Interference with Seat Heater Installation**

- a. Bonded Seat Skins:** Some factory seat skins are bonded to the cushion. If the original seat-covers are glued in place, you can only install seat heaters using an additional seat-cover, as removal and repeat use of the original seat-cover is not possible. Examples include: *Chevrolet Cavalier / Pontiac Sunfire, Chrysler Town & Country / Dodge Caravan / Plymouth Voyager / Dodge Stratus / Chrysler Sebring / Plymouth Breeze, Honda Fit, Mini Cooper, Toyota Echo*
- b. Center Tie-Downs (listings):** Installation in seats with vertical listings down the center of the seating area requires trimming these listings for Carbon Fiber Mesh heaters, or use of a heater which has clear channels between heating element. Examples include *Toyota Camry* and *Dodge Caravan*
- c. Side Mounted Air Bags:** For seats equipped with side impact air bags, please assure that you:
  - Leave the original seat seams intact and unmodified
  - Locate the heating pad only in the center of the foam part of the seat
  - Strictly adhere to the instructions provided in the vehicle manufacturer's service manual

### **4. Safety Systems:**

OCS sensors and SRS air bags are part of the vehicle's factory installed safety system. **DO NOT INSTALL** seat heaters in a manner that may come in contact with or otherwise interfere with the operation of these safety systems. *Tampering with, altering or interfering with the function of any automotive safety system is a violation of Federal Law.*