



MOE'S OPERATING TIPS



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PREVENT BREAKDOWN AND DOWNTIME.

Two components on a truck that must operate properly and efficiently to prevent breakdowns and downtime are the Alternator and Starter. Here are some checks you can do to ensure the two components function properly. Check the tightness of the alternator bracket fasteners. Tighten them as required to manufacturers specifications found in your vehicles maintenance manual. Check the belt tension of the alternator drive belt to make sure it has adequate tension without belt slippage. Engines equipped with a serpentine or poly -V belt have automatic belt tensioners and do not require belt tension inspection. You want to make sure that all the starter mount fasteners are tight and nothing is interfering with cables.

Check that all electrical connections at the alternator and starter are clean. The best way to clean the connections is to disconnect batteries and remove the individual

connections. Clean them with a wire brush, emery cloth, or a draw file. Inspect battery cable ends and the cable for wear and replace any ends or cable that cannot be reused. Thoroughly clean the connections and check the ground cable, from the battery negative to frame, is clean and no corrosion has built up. If in doubt, remove it and clean it.

Inspect battery box hold down assembly and ensure hold downs are not damaged in any way which would prevent these items from securing the batteries properly to prevent damage from excessive movement. To clean batteries use a solution of baking soda and water. Rinse with clean water and dry. If there is any exposed steel surfaces, paint these to prevent rusting. Always wear safety glasses when working around batteries. Also, check to ensure there is no foreign debris such as rocks, nuts, bolts, etc. which could rub a hole in the batteries case.