1985 MODEL FXST SHOCK ABSORBER BOLTS

General

Some 1985 FXST model motorcycles were manufactured with SHOCK ABSORBER MOUNTING BOLTS that do not meet hardness specifications. Failure of these bolts will cause the suspension to ride on the frame stops resulting in a rough ride.

NOTE

Do not confuse this Bulletin with M-889, dated April 27, 1984 which pertained to 1984 FXST model vehicles.

If a vehicle identification number (VIN) list is attached to this bulletin, you received an affected vehicle(s) at your dealership. If a VIN list is not attached, file this bulletin for future reference.

If a VIN list is attached to this bulletin, do the following:

a. Replace the shock absorber bolts on those motorcycles on the list, not yet delivered to customers, using the procedure below and/or:

b. Contact the owners of delivered motorcycles appearing on the list, and make arrangements for them to come in for shock absorber bolt replacement.

Four replacement bolts, Part No. 4079, for each affected motorcycle will be shipped to you on or about Jan. 21, 1985. Upon completion of the repair, submit a properly completed Warranty Claim Form along with the removed bolts. Use Labor Code 2380 for 0.8 hr.

Shock Absorber Bolt Replacement Procedure

1. Refer to Figure 2-52, page 2-44 of 1985 FX Service Manual.

2. The four shock absorber mounting bolts to be replaced are item 11. Remove and replace bolts one at a time as follows:

3. Loosen both mounting bolts about two to three turns to allow the shock absorber to pivot.

4. Fully unscrew one of the mounting bolts, pull shock absorber downward until bolt will clear frame tube.

CAUTION

The left shock absorber hose is retained by a clamp. Loosen or remove clamp if required.

5. Remove the bolt and washer.

6. Retain bolt. It must be returned to Harley-Davidson. The washer will be reused with replacement bolt.

7. Place washer on bolt and coat thread surface of bolt with Loctite Loc’N Seal.

8. Insert bolt through shock end and pivot shock absorber to align bolt with tapped hole in frame bracket (front bolt) or swing arm (rear bolt).

9. Tighten bolt only enough to support shock absorber and still allow the shock to pivot when removing and installing the second bolt.

10. Remove and install the second bolt following the procedure given above.

11. Tighten both bolts to 115-130 ft-lbs torque. See CAUTION note at the end of this procedure for details on proper tightening tools.
12. Remove and replace the two bolts in the other shock absorber following Steps 3 through 11.

CAUTION

FXST shock absorber bolt torquing procedure requires the use of a SNAP-ON ADAPTOR, Part No. SRES 24, to allow accurate torquing. See Figure 1.

Bolt torque must be computed because the adaptor effectively lengthens the torque wrench. A TORQUE COMPUTER is available from Snap-on, Part No. SS-306D, for use when an adaptor or extension is added to any torque wrench. The computer can easily be used with dial or click type torque wrenches.