General

In Service Bulletin M-1032, the starter relay on 1989 through 1992 model year Softail motorcycles was replaced by a new style relay. In addition, the new style starter relay was relocated to the position beneath the motorcycle seat, on the right side of the ignition module, and a plastic cover was installed over the new relay.

Harley-Davidson has recently learned that there might be inadequate clearance between the motorcycle seat pan (molded plastic underside of seat) and the plastic cover of the new, relocated starter relay on Early 1989 model year Softail motorcycles. Late 1989 to 1992 model year Softail motorcycles, which have a seat pan molded in a slightly different shape, should not experience this interference condition when the procedure outlined in Service Bulletin M-1032 is performed on them.

NOTE
It is possible for this interference condition to exist on a Late 1989 to 1992 model year Softail motorcycle if an Early 1989 Softail seat has been installed (replacing the Late 1989 to 1992 seat originally equipped on the vehicle).

When performing the Service Bulletin M-1032 procedure on a Softail motorcycle, determine if your particular vehicle has an Early 1989 seat by comparing the seat pan with those shown in Figures 1 and 2. Early 1989 seats have a bulge (4) in the raised right rear corner (3) of the seat pan’s (1) widest section; the bulge is positioned directly over the relocated starter relay with the seat installed. Late 1989 to 1992 seats have a smaller, flat surface (5) in the raised right rear corner (3) of the seat pan’s (1) widest section.

NOTE
When the seat is turned upside down and oriented as shown in the illustrations, the seat’s right rear corner is actually positioned to your left.

If you discover that the vehicle has the Early 1989 seat and that the seat pan contacts the new starter relay cover, you will need to reshape a small section of the affected seat pan according to the procedure which follows.

CAUTION
Do not cut, grind, or file plastic material of seat pan. Use only the heating method specified in this Service Bulletin to modify the shape of the seat pan.

Procedure
In order to perform the procedure specified in this Service Bulletin, you will need the following tools and materials:
• Small flat-tip screwdriver
• Aluminum foil
• Electric forced-air heat gun
• Small block of wood
• Heavy-duty staple gun
• 3/8-in-long (9.5 mm) heavy-duty staples

1. See Figures 1 and 2. With seat removed from motorcycle, use a small flat-tip screwdriver to remove staples securing seat cover material (2) to raised right rear corner (3) of seat pan’s (1) widest section. You will need to remove a total of about 7 - 9 staples.

2. Lift loose seat cover material (2) away from raised right rear corner (3) of seat pan (1). Wrap aluminum foil over loose seat cover material to hold material away from affected area of seat pan; aluminum foil will also serve as a heat shield to protect seat cover material.

WARNING
• Do not use an open flame, a torch, or a soldering iron to heat plastic seat pan. Otherwise, the seat may ignite and burn, possibly causing personal injury and/or property damage. Use only the specified electric forced-air heat gun to modify the shape of the seat pan.
• Do not touch heated section of plastic seat pan with bare hands. Hot plastic can severely burn skin.
• Follow heat gun manufacturer's guidelines, recommendations, and precautions when using such equipment.

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3. Use an electric forced-air heat gun to heat carefully the bulge (4) area of seat pan's (1) right rear corner (3). Hold heat gun approximately 1-1/2 to 2 in. (38 to 51 mm) away from surface of plastic. Continuously move heat gun over entire area to be reshaped, thereby heating plastic evenly. Continue to heat affected area until plastic can be deformed (using a small block of wood) without returning to its original shape; at this point, plastic is ready to be reshaped.

4. When plastic in affected area of seat pan is warm enough to reshape, use the end of a small block of wood to press plastic downward and outward until original bulge is reshaped into a flat surface (as shown in Figure 3) like that of Late 1989 to 1992 seat pans.

5. When the seat pan plastic cools, check the seat fitment on the motorcycle.

   If the seat pan still contacts the relocated starter relay cover, repeat Steps 3 and 4 above until sufficient clearance is attained.

**NOTE**

Place a clean shop cloth soaked with cold water on the heated plastic surface of the seat pan to speed the cooling process of the plastic.
WARNING

- To avoid potential injury to eyes from flying staples, wear safety glasses when using a staple gun in the following step.
- Length of staples used to secure seat cover material to seat pan must not exceed 3/8 in. (9.5 mm) in length. Sharp ends of staples longer than 3/8 in. (9.5 mm) could extend upward through the seat padding; this might result in personal injury to the vehicle rider.

6. With seat pan cool to the touch, use a heavy-duty staple gun loaded with 3/8-in.-long (9.5 mm) heavy duty staples to resecure loose seat cover material to reshaped seat pan. Press staple gun firmly and squarely against surfaces to be stapled. If top of any installed staple is not flush with material surface, tap down staple using a small hammer.

7. Install seat on motorcycle.
Credit Procedure

After servicing each vehicle, complete a regular Warranty Claim Form referencing Service Bulletin M-1033 and labor code 5156. Make sure you fill in your Dealer Account Number, your dealership name and address, the VIN (vehicle identification number), and the owner information. Submit the completed Warranty Claim Form for this Service Bulletin M-1033, along with the Dealer Service Card and original starter relay as indicated in the Service Bulletin M-1032 Credit Procedure, to Harley-Davidson.

When Harley-Davidson receives your properly completed Warranty Claim Form, your properly completed Dealer Service Card, and the original starter relay, you will receive 0.4 hour labor time for this Service Bulletin M-1033 (which includes dealer administrative time of 0.1 hour) as well as the credit specified in Service Bulletin M-1032 for each motorcycle serviced.

Dealer Inventory

If any Softail seat (Part Number 52208-86, 52501-84, 52502-86, 52503-88, or 91768-85) in your dealer stock has a seat pan with the bulge in the raised right rear corner (see Figures 1 and 2), and if this affected seat is to be installed on a 1989 and later Softail model, then the affected seat pan will require reshaping (prior to installation) according to the procedure specified in this Service Bulletin.

In this case, complete only a regular Warranty Claim Form referencing Service Bulletin M-1033 and labor code 5156. Please write “Dealer Inventory” in the Remarks section of the form. Make sure you fill in your Dealer Account Number, your dealership name and address, the vehicle identification number (if available), and the owner information (if available). Submit the completed Warranty Claim Form to Harley-Davidson. When Harley-Davidson receives your properly completed Warranty Claim Form, you will receive 0.4 hour labor time, which includes dealer administrative time of 0.1 hour.