

April 19, 2004

Milliampere Draw Information

TSSM current draw is always 3 milliamps regardless of whether the module is armed or disarmed. The 2004 Softail, Dyna and VRSC Electrical Diagnostic Manuals list this correctly but other 2001 - 2004 Electrical Diagnostic Manuals do not. Please change the armed value listed in Table 1-4 from 3.5 to 3 milliamps on all the affected manuals in your dealership.

Also be aware that the TSSM will go into storage mode after the selected time regardless of whether it is armed or disarmed.

The security siren will draw approximately 20 milliamps for several hours whenever powered up, so before any draw test we suggest you disconnect the siren.

Tech Tip #55

This 2002 tip refers to using an inductive pickup when measuring milliamp draw. Since most of our 2004 motorcycles are now equipped with a maxi-fuse, we suggest you take the measurements using a digital multimeter at the maxi-fuse holder on those vehicles. Remember the turn signal/security module will draw approximately 20 milliamps for 20 seconds after it sees power. Take measurements at the battery negative terminal on circuit breaker models.

Battery Charging Information

We still receive a large number of warranty return batteries that pass all tests after being properly charged. Please review page 7 of Tech Tip #55 and Service Bulletin M-1089. Remember that batteries in a very low state of charge may take significant time to reach full charge when using a battery tender (up to 72 hrs) and a tapered rate charger will be required to bring voltage above 5 volts before the Battery Tender can be used. A fully charged battery and a high quality load tester are required to verify battery capability.

A high percentage of battery discharge complaints are being misdiagnosed. Over time, any storage battery will discharge with lack of use. The 12 amp/hr battery used in the V-Rod and XL will not maintain charge for as long a period of time as a larger 19 or 21 amp/hr battery. Consider the vehicle mileage and age of the vehicle before assuming there is an electrical issue.

In most cases, the battery simply needs a good charge per the above instructions and the customer should be encouraged to use a Battery Tender if the bike does not get ridden on a regular basis.

Please update all service literature and notify all service personnel of this updated information.