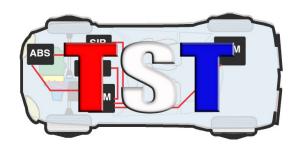
September 2013



Technicians Service Training

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November 11th -14th
Donny Seyfer
What does the Code look like
-Streamlined Diagnostics

Jan 13th - 16th 2014
Bill Fulton
Diagnostic Strategies On
Broken Cars - Symptom To
System Based Diagnostics
Beyond Pattern Failures

March 22nd (Saturday) Big Event Fishkill NY Instructors: Scot Mann TBA Paul "Scanner" Danner No Start Diagnosis

May 12th -16th
Dave Hobbs
New Computerized Charging
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Editor

"G" Jerry Truglia

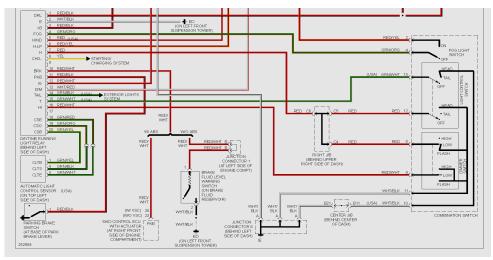
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"Reading a Schematic"

Reading an electrical map means little if you don't know how to drive!

Wiring diagrams are like road maps. You wouldn't take a cross-country trip without consulting a map or a GPS, would you? But many techs will dive blindly into an electrical diagnosis without first consulting the schematic. Unfortunately, wiring schematics don't come with a GPS navigation option. (The one neat exception I've seen is the OEM Mazda diagrams in MotoLogic. They are interactive and show current flow in the circuit under different key positions.)

No, for the most part we have to do it the way techs have been doing it for years.



(Con't on page 3)

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Currently there are TST chapters in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and membership continues to grow. For more information you can call



TST headquarters at: (845) 628-6928 www.TSTseminars.org

What is TST?

TST is a group of dedicated technicians and instructors committed to the continuing education of our fellow technicians. We provide once a month training seminars to technicians at a reasonable price. TST brings our members nationally known instructors and state of the art training.

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- Keep technicians informed of information affecting our industry.
- Increase consumer awareness of what a good technician is.

Why join TST?

TST membership includes special pricing on weekday night seminars and the occasional full Saturday seminar. With a \$75.00 yearly membership, the monthly seminars are only \$65.00. TST classes are NOT sales or product seminars. The instructors that TST brings in are all "hands-on" industry experts with up to date, cutting edge knowledge that you can use in your shop the next day. That's 65 dollars for a seminar in which you are able to learn something useful, for fixing those tough jobs that we all see on a regular basis. Our instructors are masters at making the complex understandable. Membership also includes a Monthly Newsletter full of real world technical articles, diagnostic case studies, and solutions to the kinds of problems you see in your bays each week.

The following are some of TST's regular instructors:

membership continues Bernie Thompson of ATS

John Thornton of Autotrain Inc.

Wayne Colonna of ATSG

Jorge Menchu the "Labscope Guru," AES Wave

John Anello of Auto Tech On Wheels

Mark Warren of Motor Magazine

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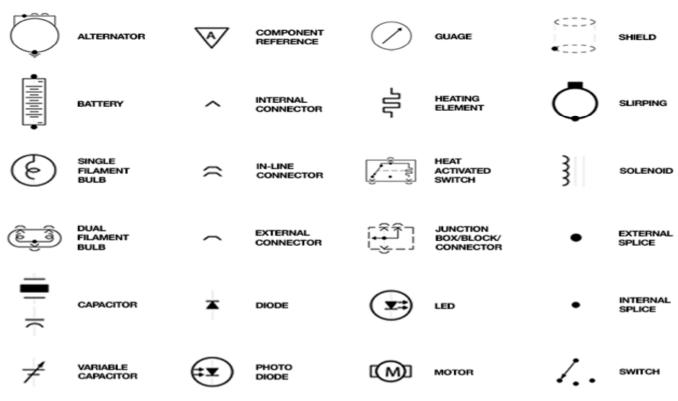
Ken Zanders of Illinois Air Team

Jerry "G" Truglia of A.T.T.S. Inc.

"Reading a Schematic" (con't from p. 1)

And you'll find it isn't all that difficult if you read through and follow all the steps. Just like reading a road map, the first place to start is with the diagram information, providing you with the position, arrangement of devices and terminals. OE diagrams are often all inclusive, that is; they show everything on one big diagram that is broken up into segments. Most aftermarket service information providers provide simpler diagrams, referred to as block diagrams that show only the components/wiring needed by an individual circuit. Most block diagrams also start with the power source at the top of the page, and follow the path to ground, ending at the bottom of the page. This is followed by a color code chart, so you'll know what colors the diagram abbreviations are referring to. Think that too simple? Check out an OEM German schematic where all the colors are listed in Deustch! Next is the abbreviations list that will clue you in on what the component abbreviations stand for. Last, but not least, review the symbols that will be used in the diagrams so you understand what they mean.

Diagram Legend

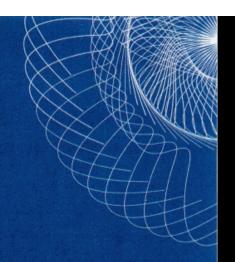


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Thank you so much for making your process so smooth and painless, kind and professional.





Jo



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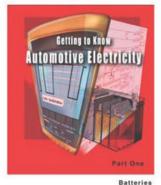
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OTC, announces a new standard of diagnostic innovation with the launch of the professional OEM-grade Genisys Touch, the first-ever PC-based tablet diagnostic tool with an included J2534 Reflash/Reprogramming device.

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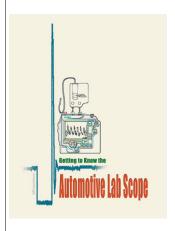
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"Reading a Schematic" (con't from p. 3)

Once you're comfortable with the basic layout of the schematic (map) you're using, it's time to locate the specific address you want to investigate. On a wiring diagram, that would be the electrical component, or load, that is giving you a problem. If that load isn't working, it's because it has an internal problem or the current flow isn't flowing the way it should. That means we need to identify the basic elements the load needs to operate: the source of power, the control(s) that determine when the load is "on", and the path that connects it all together.

If you are not as comfortable with tracing wiring diagrams as you'd like to be, I would recommend you Google "Wiring Diagram Color Coding by Jorge Menchu". Jorge has been teaching wiring diagram color-coding seminars for years and offers his resources at AESWave.com. In his seminar, he covers the basics that many have missed in our industry. Jorge explains how to color code the wiring diagram in five basic parts using red to represent power all the time, green as grounds all the time, orange as power only when the circuit (control device) is closed, yellow as ground only when the circuit (control device) is closed and blue as a variable voltage. Most electrical faults can be easily found when you know what test results to expect, and Jorge's method of color-coding helps you do just that. I'd also recommend you visit the Motor Age site and read "The Electrical System Roadmap" article in the February, 2009 issue.

Something To Get You Started

For an example of how to get started improving your wiring diagram navigational skills, I'm going to use a typical block diagram schematic of a 2007 Toyota Corolla CE headlight circuit and show how (Con't on page 9)

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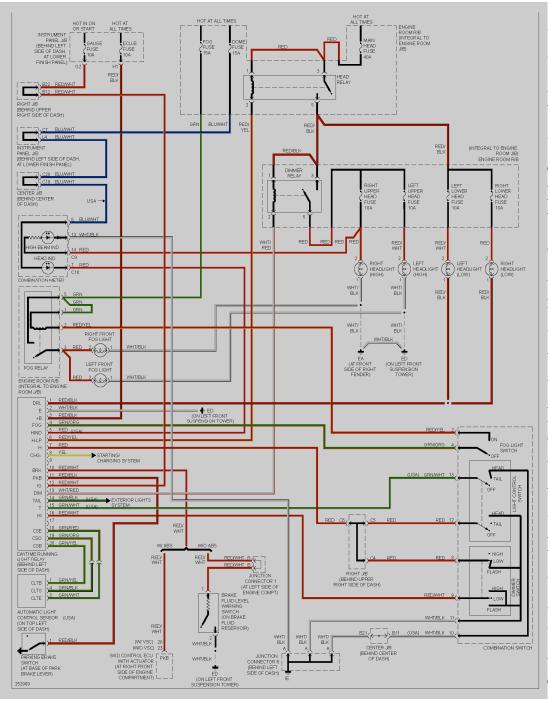
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"Reading a Schematic" (con't from p. 7)

..... to use it to troubleshoot a missing driver's side low beam. If you're typical, the first thing you'd do is replace the bulb! Hey, I would have done the same thing. And most of the time we'd probably be right. But what would you do when the new bulb also fails to work?

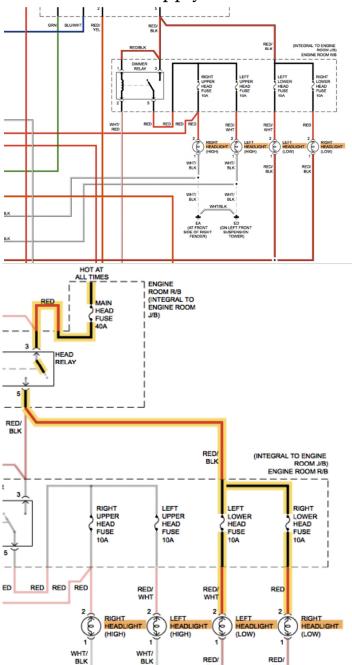
Go make a copy of the diagram and follow along!



Lots of stuff on this diagram, isn't there? But don't freak out quite yet! You already know that every electrical circuit has to have certain basic elements in order to work. The first thing we need is a load, or component that will do the job we want the circuit to perform. What other reason would we have for wiring stuff in? In this case, it's the headlights so let's find them first and give them a little color so we can find them again easily.

"Reading a Schematic" (con't from p. 9)

With the load identified, it's time to move on to what that load needs to work; power and ground. The object of the next step is to locate and identify the wires at the load that supply both. In this case, there are only two wires to choose from



so we've got a 50/50 shot! Seriously, though, in those cases where the load has more than two wires, just pick one and start following it to see where it goes.

I'm going to start with the one on top. In block diagrams, power wires generally head up the page while ground wires generally head down. May not always be the case, and it doesn't really matter. Like I said, I've got a 50/50 shot. This red wire with a white tracer (that is, a stripe that runs the length of the wire) first enters the fuse box where a 10-amp fuse provides the protection against shorts to ground for this circuit. A fuse will only be located on the power side of the load so I know what side I'm tracing now.

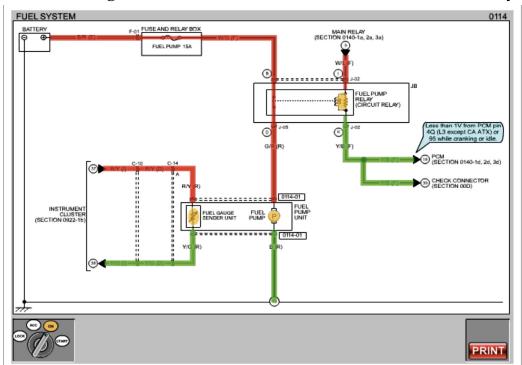
It's also easy to see that just past the fuse, the power feed to the other headlight is spliced in. The two bulbs may have separate fuses, but they share the same power source! Onward and upward!

The red trail now changes from one with a white tracer to one with a black one. The path leads to the headlight relay, and by the look of the relay symbol, it's on the switch side of the relay. What does that make the relay?

"Reading a Schematic" (con't from p. 10)

Control Or Load?

A relay is an electrical component typically used by a control module to turn a high current load on or off. That means the relay can be con-



sidered a control device or a load all its own. In this case, we are on that part of the relay that acts as a switch and we would treat the

relay as such. Am I worried about the solenoid side of the relay at this point? No, not until I suspect the relay's not doing it's job as a control device. Until then, I'll stay focused on finding the power source I'm looking for.

And we're almost there. The red path now turns completely red as we exit the relay on the other side of the contacts. From there, it's a short walk to the Main Headlight 40-amp fuse, and from there it ends with a notation that reads "Hot At All Times".

What does that mean?

The "source" for the majority of automotive electrical systems is the battery.

(Con't on page 12)

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2. Do you find the seminars useful?

Please ask a fellow technician to come and checkout our seminars so we can continue to bring you the best available information each month.

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Thank you, G Truglia

"Reading a Schematic" (con't from page 11)

Eventually, that's were we want to end up. In most block diagrams, the notation "Hot At All Times" means this point in the harness is a straight line back to the battery. You can verify exactly how it gets there by referring to a diagram called the Power Distribution schematic. This shows every circuit protection device on the car, the route from the batter to the device, and all the circuits that device protects.

"Hot In Run", "Hot In Start", and similar phrases indicates the path back to the battery first goes through the ignition switch. You'll find the details for these routes in the Power Distribution diagram as well.

For our purposes, though, we have succeeded in identifying the power side of the load back to the source. On to the "Dark Side"!

With one half done, let's go back to the headlight and find out how current passing through it makes it's way to ground. The only wire left to trace is...what, another red wire with black tracer? But didn't we already trace that wire up at the relay? We can't have two power wires going to the headlight, can we?

No, of course not. Just goes to show you that wire colors aren't necessarily unique to the one you have your hand on.

So let's continue. It doesn't take long to see that both low beams come together on this path. Joined, they both continue along to the Daytime Running Light Relay (DRL). Sure are a lot of wires coming off of this thing, aren't there?

I'm So Confused!

(Con't on page 13)

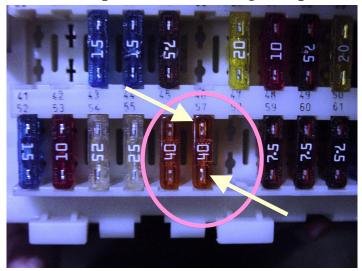
"Reading a Schematic" (con't from page 12)

Here is where a lot of techs start to lose it. They find themselves tracing a diagram to a "complex" component on a wire they want to believe is one thing but the colors are telling them it's something else. Trust what you know. You'll find, as Jorge Menchu is fond of saying, that you know more than you give yourself credit for.

The red/black wire at the DRL has to be the ground path for the low beam headlights, doesn't it? With the complaint of only one low beam not working, do I care what the DRL does or how it does it? Think about that a minute.

This part of the path is shared by both headlights, isn't it? Anything that happens after the point where the two headlights meet would affect the operation of the both of them. And since we aren't having any problems with the right side, I'm going to focus only on that part of the schematic unique to the left one.

So which side has the problem? That's easy enough to find out. Turn the head-lights on and measure for voltage with your multimeter at the red wire with white tracer. Take this measurement right at the headlight connector and ground your meter right at the battery. This makes sure you check the entire path you just traced on your diagram. Yes, I know I said I'm only concerned about that part of the wiring unique to the light, but testing the entire path is a



"best practice" and a good habit to get into.

If there's no power, then there has to be a problem between the bulb connection and the point where the power feed splices together. The fuse would be the next easiest place to check. Just be sure to check it on BOTH sides! I have seen fuses that looked fine on a visual check

but were still "open". No power there either?

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"Reading a Schematic" (con't from page 13)

Only one stop left, and that's at the red/black wire that brings the power to the two low beam fuses.

What if there is power? Then we move our multimeter lead to the ground side. If we read the same voltage here as we did on the power side with the lights



turned on, there is an open circuit between the bulb and the ground splice point. If we read a perfect "0" on the meter, the bulb filament is blown or the bulb is not making good contact in the socket. No current is flowing. Any reading between the two over, say, 0.50 volts indicates excessive resistance in that short section of wiring, But if that were the case, the bulb would be lit...just dim.

And If Both Sides Worked?

You would still perform the same two tests, measuring the amount of voltage on both the power side and ground side of the bulbs as close to them as you can get. The only difference is where you'd focus your efforts on the side with the problem. Since both bulbs are not working, you'd look only at those parts of the circuit the two have in common. You may even have to do some reading on how that DRL works, but it's a sure bet it completes ground somehow!

That's where your skill, training, and experience come into play. Just like a good driver, you are comfortable with the idea of the basic operation of the system you're taking on. If not, you'll learn about that system first, won't you?

And that's what separates you from the amateur!

Article by G Truglia,
ASE CMAT, CMTT, CMST, L1, CNG & TST Founder, President
Thanks to Pete Meier for the pictures

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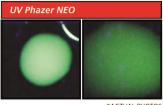
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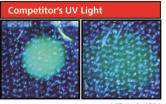
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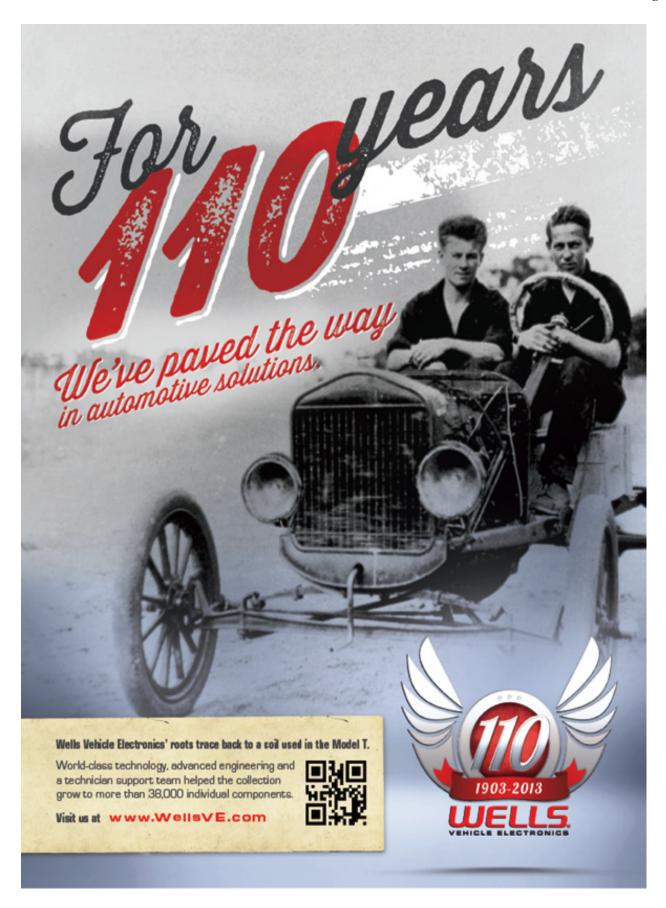
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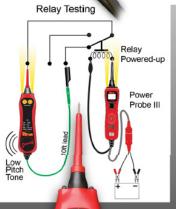


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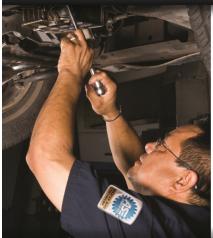


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