

Technical Service Information

ALL AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSIONS

ANTIFREEZE AND/OR WATER CONTAMINATION
"JUST CHANGING TRANSMISSION FLUID IS NOT ACCEPTABLE"

Antifreeze and/or water contaminated transmission fluid will cause friction material breakdown and lip seal degradation. The binder (Glue) in friction materials will disolve causing friction material to flake off. Automatic transmission fluid contaminated with antifreeze and/or water will look very much like a "Strawberry Milkshake". *Just changing the transmission fluid is not acceptable*. Friction materials and seals that have been exposed to antifreeze and/or water, even for a short period of time, will eventually be damaged. The torque converter cannot be completely drained, so contamination would still be present when the remaining fluid circulates through the transmission. Most all late model converters also have a clutch lining (friction material) on the inside of them, so converter replacement is mandatory.

IF TRANSMISSION FLUID IS CONTAMINATED WITH ANTIFREEZE AND/OR WATER:

- 1. Locate the source of the leak and repair or replace the radiator as necessary.
- 2. Replace the transmission or transaxle, or completely overhaul, including *ALL* internal and external seals, *ALL* friction materials (Clutches, Bands, etc..), and *ALL* plastic thrust washers.
- 3. Replace the torque converter as it contains friction material that *MUST* be replaced.
- 4. If the water contamination was from a flood, children playing "Filling Station", engine steam clean at the local car wash, or any external source, it is mandatory to flush completely the transmission cooler in the radiator and the cooler lines.

Copyright © 2000 ATSG