insider info.

Use Of A/C Dyes In Subaru Air Conditioning Systems

The following recommendations have been issued by ZEXEL USA HVAC and Calsonic North America, Inc., the manufacturers of Subaru air conditioning systems, regarding the use of A/C dyes in Subaru A/C systems:

ZEXEL USA HVAC

- Non-ultraviolet (red dye) is strongly cautioned against. There are many contaminants in this type of dye that that can cause premature compressor or other system component failure.
- Ultraviolet dye can be used as a last resort to attempt to find a repeat leak that can't be found using an adequate electronic leak detector. ZEXEL USA HVAC Technical Service Department utilizes a Yokogawa H10N and/or H10PM electronic leak detector for its field investigations. Zexel has found this detector to be very reliable and accurate, when properly maintained. This detector is also marketed by Kent-Moore Tool Company. In most instances, ZEXEL has not found it necessary to use any type of dye for leak detection. The most important part of leak detection is patience and properly maintaining your equipment.

Calsonic North America, Inc.

- Calsonic only recommends ultraviolet dye. Ultraviolet dye called "Brightness Solution" is an example of one product that is approved by Calsonic. Kent-Moore Tool Company sells the ultraviolet dye using their part number J-41447 for R-134a and J-39475 for R-12 systems. Also recommended are dye injector tools that do not require the use of refrigerant to introduce the dye into the A/C system. Use Kent-Moore A/C Tracer Dye Injector part numbers J-41459 for R-134a systems and J-41709 for R-12 systems.
 - To find a leak with the dye injected into the A/C system, Calsonic recommends using the Universal 12 volt Leak Detection Lamp that can be ordered through Kent-Moore using part number J-42220.
 - Calsonic recommends the use of a Yokogawa leak detector or the D-TEK leak detector which can be ordered from Kent-Moore Tool Company using part number J-41995.