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AUTOMOTIVE AIR CONDITIONING REPAIR

Question:

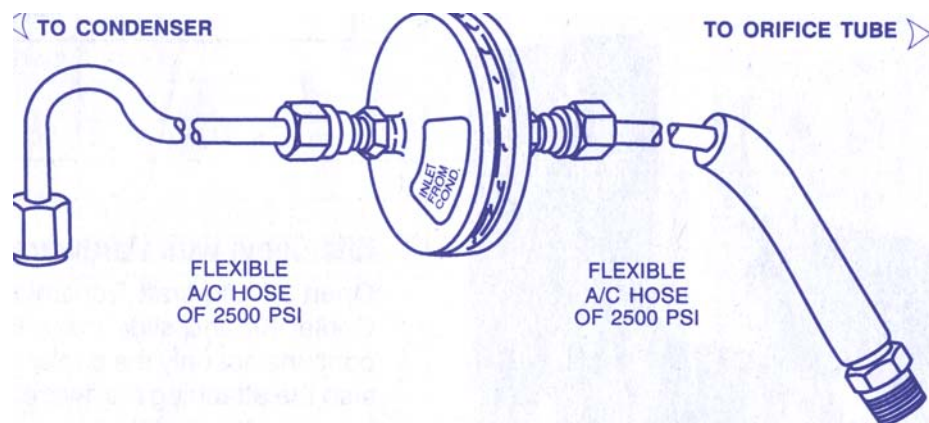
What is the procedure called live flushing?

Answer:

Each manufacturer of the car or compressors has outlined what they believe to be the best method to clean out an air conditioning system. This procedure is only to remove debris from system components resulting from a seized or ground up compressor. It is not a method to remove oil.

Ford FX-15/FS-10 compressors create a problem called black death. This is a combination of solder flux and aluminum shavings from the wearing of the old compressor. This substance collects in the bottom of the condenser, and when the system is cool, become a solid mass.

Ford recommends using the live flush method to remove black- death and debris from the condenser. Operation of the system will heat the condenser, liquefying the mass, and pass out of the condenser and into the filter.



Live flushing is where an inline filter, using jumper lines, is placed into the liquid line, after the condenser. The system is charged with refrigerant, and then operated for one hour. The charge of refrigerant is recovered and the filter is then removed from the system and replaced with a new inline filter.

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Inline filters should be installed in the discharge and suction hoses for further protection. The system is recharged with refrigerant.

These Ford compressors have a tendency to push material up the suction hose when the compressor fails. By installing a filter in the suction hose, the material cannot reenter the new compressor.

The alternative to this procedure is to always replace the condenser.

There are kits available that include fittings necessary to make the connections for live flushing.

Reference to Ford technical service bulletin # TB01193