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# Field Service Campaign

April 2008  
SF375A

## Copy of Letter to Owner Subject: Sterling Car Hauler Power Cables

Freightliner LLC, on behalf of its wholly owned subsidiary, Sterling Truck Corporation, is initiating Field Service Campaign SF375A to modify specific Sterling L-Line car haulers manufactured between August 25, 2004, and June 18, 2007 with Mercedes Benz MBE 4000 engines.

Insufficient support of the power cables near the exhaust gas recirculation bracket can cause the power cables to contact the bracket, resulting in possible damage and an electrical short at the bracket.

The power cables will be insulated and rerouted as necessary.

Parts are now available for authorized dealers to order. Contact your authorized dealer to arrange to have your vehicle(s) modified as soon as possible and to assure that parts are available at the dealer. To locate a dealer, search online at [www.FreightlinerTrucks.com](http://www.FreightlinerTrucks.com), [www.SterlingTrucks.com](http://www.SterlingTrucks.com), or contact the Warranty Campaigns Department for assistance.

When you contact your dealer, refer to Field Service Campaign **SF375A** and your vehicle identification number. Once kit(s) are received at the dealership, the campaign will take approximately four hours and will be performed at no charge to you.

This Field Service Campaign will **terminate on April 30, 2009**. Please make sure your vehicle(s) is modified prior to this date. Modifications completed after this date will be done at the customer's expense.

As stated in the terms of your express limited warranty, Freightliner LLC will not pay for any damage caused by failure to properly maintain your vehicle. Freightliner LLC considers the work necessary under this campaign to be proper maintenance and will, therefore, not pay for any damage to your vehicle caused by your failure to have the repairs that are the subject of this campaign performed in a reasonable time.

**IMPORTANT:** When the campaign has been completed on your vehicle, please ensure that a completion sticker has been affixed to your vehicle referencing **SF375A**.

Contact the Warranty Campaigns Department at (800) 547-0712, from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday, e-mail address [WarrantyCampaigns@Freightliner.com](mailto:WarrantyCampaigns@Freightliner.com), or the Customer Assistance Center at (800) FTL-HELP or (800) STL-HELP, after normal business hours, if you have any questions or need additional information.

WARRANTY CAMPAIGNS DEPARTMENT

Enclosure

## Work Instructions

### Subject: Sterling Car Hauler Power Cables

**Models Affected:** Specific Sterling L-Line car haulers manufactured between August 25, 2004, and June 18, 2007 with Mercedes Benz MBE 4000 engines.

#### Power cable routing procedure

1. Check the base label (Form WAR259) for a completion sticker for SF375 (WAR261), indicating this work has been done. The base label is usually located on the passenger side door about 12 inches (30 cm) below the door latch. If a sticker is present, no further work is needed. If there is no sticker, go to the next step.
2. Drive the vehicle onto a hoist, shut down the engine, apply the parking brakes, and chock the tires.
3. Disconnect the battery cables at the battery box and remove the tie straps from all the battery box cables so they can be pulled to the inside of the frame rails once the vehicle is raised.
4. Raise the vehicle.
5. Remove the tie straps and clamps that hold the ECM power harness (this conduit contains white wires) running from the battery box up to where the cable is secured at the breather tube on the left side of the engine.
6. Remove the alternator cables and battery cables from the starter and along the bell housing so they are hanging from the left frame rail. See Fig. 1.

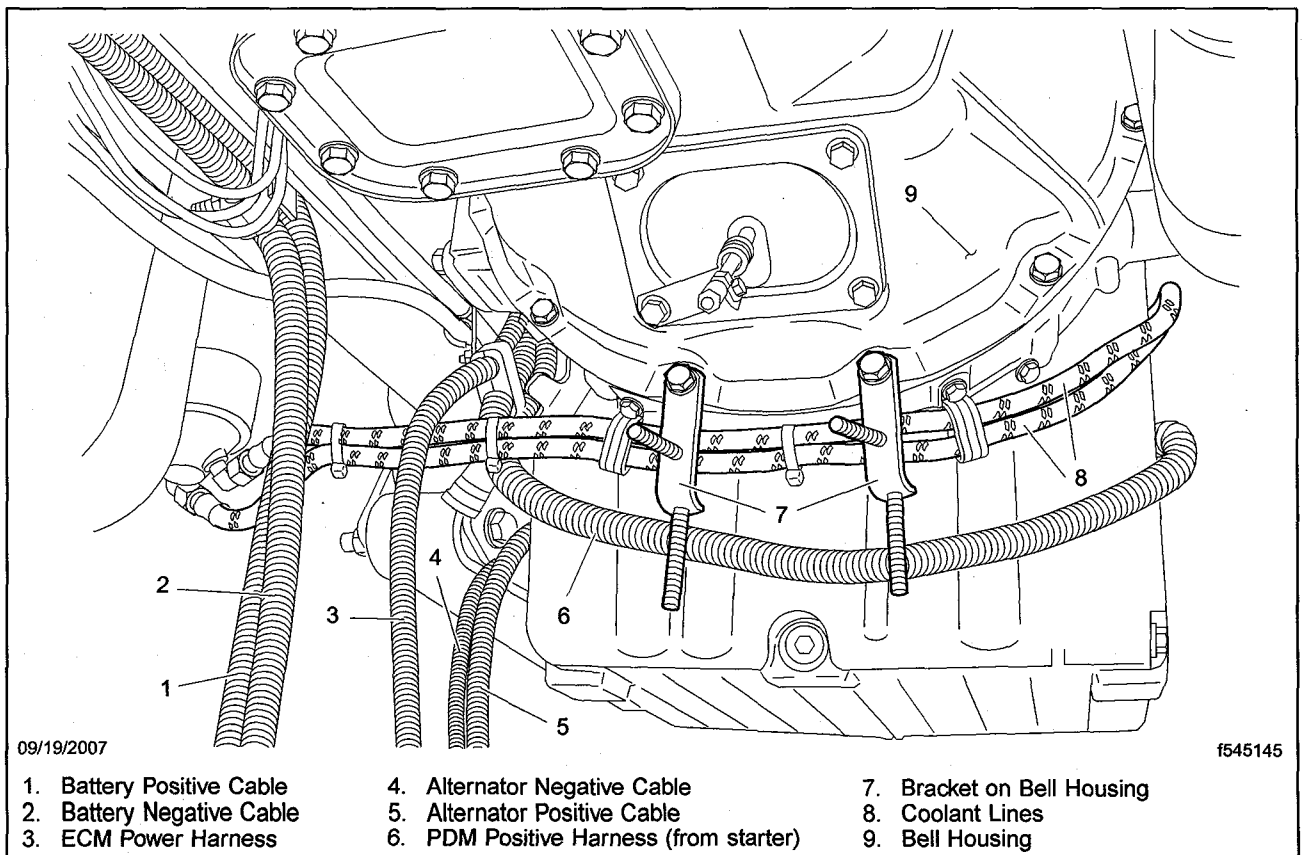


Fig. 1, View from Under the Vehicle, Looking Forward

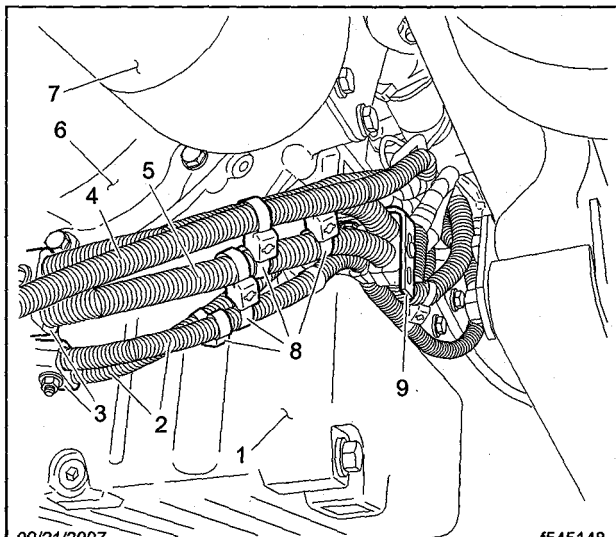
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7. Remove all clamps that support the coolant lines from the fuel filter under the bell housing and around and below the starter.
8. Route the fuel filter coolant lines above the Z-bracket on the right side of the engine. See Fig. 2 to note location of Z-bracket.
9. Install three, equally spaced, tie straps from the kit (23-09796-629) on the fuel-filter coolant lines where they pass under the bell housing, wrapping each tie strap twice around the lines. Using the two cushion clamps and M8 x 20 bolts from the kit, secure the tie strapped coolant lines to the underside of the bell housing. See Fig. 1.

NOTE: The coolant lines and fittings at the fuel filter may need to be loosened and repositioned to minimize sharp angles and prevent kinking in the lines.

10. Run the ECM power harness over the coolant lines. See Fig. 3A.
11. If the bell-housing brackets are installed at an angle, position them so they are hanging vertically. Mount the main battery cables to the bell-housing brackets reusing the large dual-cable ("clamshell") clamps on the rearward-facing studs. Secure with 5/16 inch nylon locknuts and flatwashers from the kit. See Fig. 3.

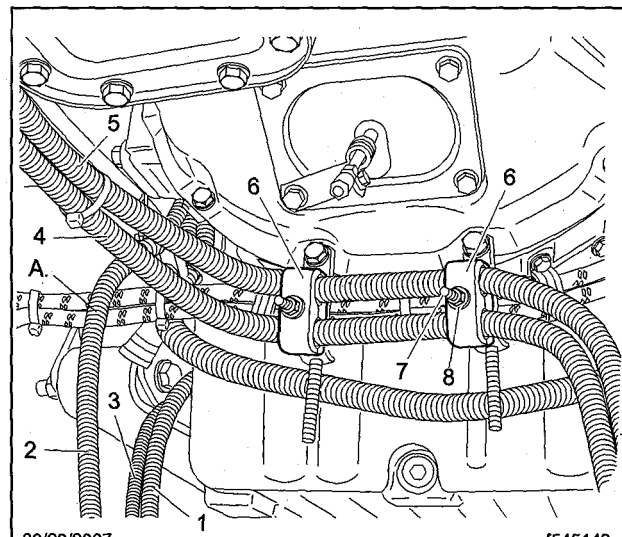


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1. Oil Pan
2. Alternator Cables
3. Dual Cable ("Clamshell") Clamps
4. PDM Positive Power Feed
5. Battery Negative Cable
6. Bell Housing
7. Exhaust Pipe
8. Double Tie Straps
9. Z-Bracket

Fig. 2, View from Under Right Side of Engine



09/20/2007

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- A. ECM power harness over coolant lines
1. Alternator Positive Cable
  2. ECM Power Harness
  3. Alternator Negative Cable
  4. Battery Negative Cable
  5. Battery Positive Cable
  6. Dual Cable ("Clamshell") Clamp
  7. Stud on Bell-Housing Bracket
  8. 5/16-Inch Nylon Locknut

Fig. 3, View Looking Toward Front of Vehicle

12. Take the 12-inch silicon heater hose from the kit and cut the hose lengthwise. Wrap the heater hose around the positive alternator cable. Position the heater hose on the alternator cable so it is centered at the area where it passes the engine breather tube. Using five tie straps from the kit, secure the heater hose. See Fig. 4.
13. Using the 2-inch long piece of fuel line from the kit, cover the stud on the breather tube bracket. See Fig. 5.

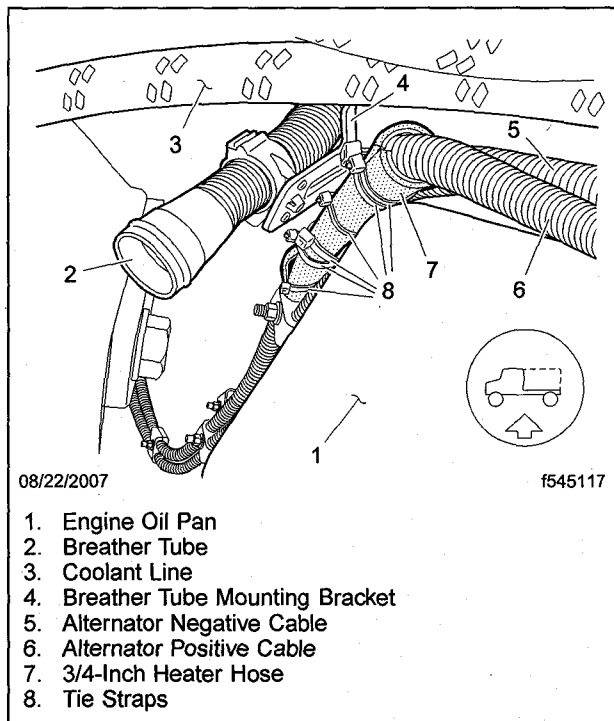


Fig. 4, From Under Left Side of Vehicle

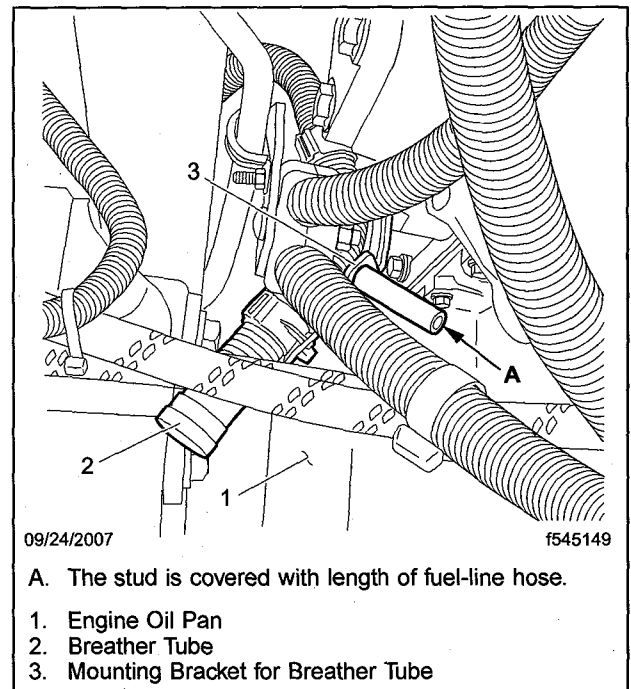
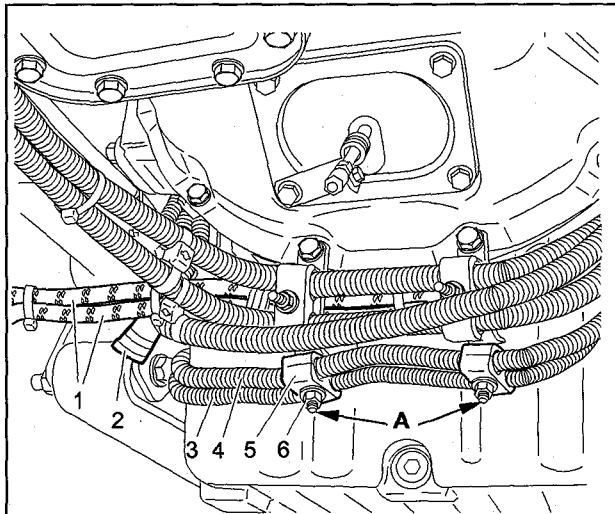


Fig. 5, View from Under Left Side of Vehicle

14. Cover the negative alternator cable with the 5-foot long section of nylon conduit from the kit, from the starter to past the breather tube on the left side of the engine.
15. Using double tie straps from the kit (TYC DCT110HIR), wrap the alternator cables together in the area where they pass by the breather tube.
16. Using the dual cable ("clamshell") clamps already on the truck, route the alternator cables into the clamps using the lower studs on the bell housing brackets. Secure with flatwashers and nylon locknuts from the kit, then cut off the excess stud length. See Fig. 6.
17. Using double tie straps from the kit, secure the main PDM positive harness to the battery cables along the underside of the bell housing. To ensure there is enough length for this harness to reach the starter without interference, the clamps on the left side of the engine may have to be loosened and the harness repositioned.
18. Route the air compressor outlet line so there is no interference with the breather tube, front suspension, or battery cables. Inspect and route the air line from the engine back to the air dryer so there are no dips, kinks, or loops where water can collect and freeze. See Fig. 7 and Fig. 8.

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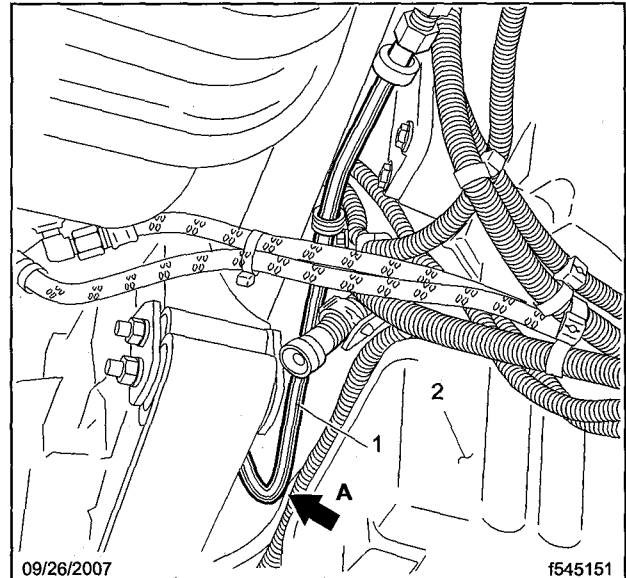
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A. The extra length of studs is cut off.

1. Coolant Lines
2. Breather Tube
3. Alternator Negative Cable
4. Alternator Positive Cable
5. Dual Cable ("Clamshell") Clamp
6. 5/16-Inch Nylon Locknut

**Fig. 6, View Looking Toward Front of Vehicle**



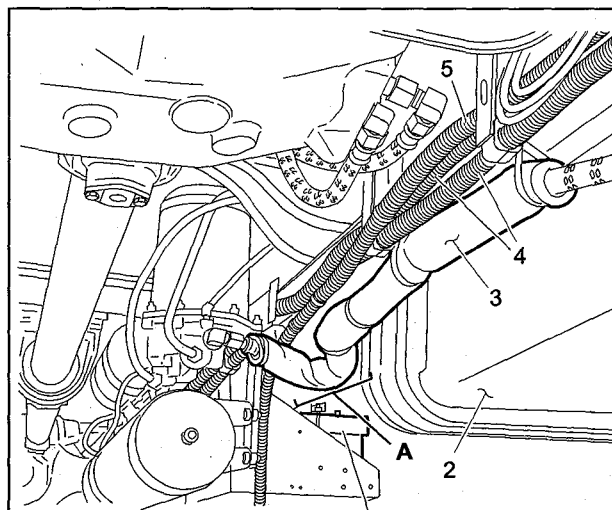
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A. Low Spot to Be Avoided

1. Air Compressor Outlet Line
2. Engine Oil Pan

**Fig. 7, View Looking Toward Front of Vehicle**



09/26/2007

f545147

A. Low Spot and Kinks to be Avoided

1. Batteries
2. Fuel Tank
3. Air Compressor Outlet Line (insulated)
4. Battery Cables
5. ECM Power Harness (not connected to battery)

**Fig. 8, View Looking Toward Rear of Vehicle**

19. Route the ECM power harness along the main battery cables back to the battery box and secure it with double tie straps from the kit.
20. Ensure that the battery cables are routed without sags or interference with other parts. All dual cable clamps ("clamshell") must be retained with a flatwasher and a nylon locknut from the kit. *Do not use standard hexnuts.*
21. Connect the battery cables, alternator cables, and the main cab power feed harness to the starter. Use a large dual-cable clamp from the kit on the inside of the Z-bracket at the right side of the engine, to retain the main battery cables. Use double tie straps from the kit to secure the remaining lengths of the alternator cables and the cab power feed harness to the battery cables. Make sure that all power cables are secured.
22. Lower the vehicle and install the battery box cover.
23. Connect the battery cables, ground cables, and the ECM power harness to the batteries. Secure the cables with double tie straps from the kit, while allowing for service access to the batteries.
24. Clean a spot on the base label (Form WAR259) and attach a completion sticker for campaign SF375 (Form WAR 261) to the base label.
25. Remove the chocks.