ServiceNews Article

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A Word on Fuel Cell Insulating Fluid

AFFECTED VEHICLES

Year	Model	Trim
2017-18	Clarity Fuel Cell	ALL

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article revises the one posted in July 2017. Changes are highlighted in yellow.

The Clarity Fuel Cell vehicle has two very different cooling systems. One system cools the fuel cell system; the other one cools the inverter system.

The fuel cell system uses a **50**% coolant mixture called **fuel cell insulating fluid**. This fluid can't be mixed with any other fluid. Doing so cuts its insulating properties and will damage the fuel cell system.

Honda parts stock carries two different types of fuel cell insulating fluid for servicing. Here's the lowdown:

P/N OL999-9016

This fluid is a **20%** prediluted formulation that's just for topping off the fuel cell coolant reservoir. Topping off compensates for any fluid loss due to evaporation.



It comes in **16-ounce** bottles, and you'll most likely need it when doing an Code A maintenance service.

P/N OL999-9014

This fluid is a **50%** prediluted formulation that's just for fluid replacement.



Order this insulating fluid only if you're replacing the fuel cell stack, the cooling system is opened (for example, the vehicle was in a collision or a crash), or the insulating fluid in the vehicle is over **12 years** old. This type of insulating fluid comes in **2.5-gallon** containers, and you'll need **two** of them to do a complete fluid replacement.

It's important to keep in mind that both of these insulating fluids have a limited shelf life (1 year - unopened) and can't be returned once ordered. They're also quite pricey.

Something else to keep in mind: Insulating fluid is like brake fluid. Once you open the bottle or container and expose that fluid to air, you must use what you need and discard the rest. **You can't save exposed, unused fluid!**

So, if you have a need for fuel cell insulating fluid, be sure to order carefully and only **when** you need it. For more info, check out PIB A17-0014, *Fuel Cell Insulating Fluid: Clarity Fuel Cell*.