



STAR ONLINE PUBLICATION



Case Number: S2203000002

Release Date: May 2022

Symptom/Vehicle Issue: RDU Fluid Appearing Dark In Color Or Having Fine Metal Particulate.

Discussion: When performing normal diagnosis on the 4WD and/or Rear Axles, a technician may notice the dark appearance of the Rear Differential Unit (RDU) fluid. It may also be noted that the fluid may have the appearance of having fine metal particulate in it. This is typically noticed on vehicles with low mileage, and relatively new fluid.

RDU fluid appearing dark in color with relatively low mileage on it, is a characteristic of this fluid type and does not necessarily indicate an issue with the RDU. This fluid will turn dark in color within a few miles of use. Please see (Figure 1.). Additionally, the presence of fine metal particulate in the fluid is normal during the break-in period for the RDU.



Figure 1.

1. New Fluid
2. After low mileage.

This document does not authorize warranty repairs. This communication documents a record of past experiences. STAR Online does not provide any conclusions about what is wrong with the vehicle. Rather, it captures all previous cases known that appear to be similar or related to the vehicle symptom / condition. You are the expert, and you are responsible for deciding on the appropriate course of action.

Contact STAR Center, or your Technical Assistance Center Via TechCONNECT or eCONTACT ticket if no solution is found



STAR ONLINE PUBLICATION



Do not replace the RDU if the fluid has these characteristics. Instead, inspect for signs of the fluid overheating (foul odor), or large metal debris in the RDU before condemning any parts.

This document does not authorize warranty repairs. This communication documents a record of past experiences. STAR Online does not provide any conclusions about what is wrong with the vehicle. Rather, it captures all previous cases known that appear to be similar or related to the vehicle symptom / condition. You are the expert, and you are responsible for deciding on the appropriate course of action.

Contact STAR Center, or your Technical Assistance Center Via TechCONNECT or eCONTACT ticket if no solution is found