

SS 3163 FTL Power Steering Reservoir Fill Cap Venting

Concern:

Incorrect diagnosis of a failed reservoir fill cap or failed reservoir body leading to unnecessary replacement of the fill cap or reservoir assembly.

If a fill cap is damaged and not venting correctly, this can lead to a drop in power steering fluid level. Depending on operating conditions, there can also be an excessive amount of debris build up on the reservoir body.

Affected Models:

Freightliner vehicles equipped with 2 & 4 quart capacity polymer power steering reservoirs

Symptoms:

The fill cap of the reservoir is designed with an integrated pressure and vacuum vent feature. This feature compensates for the pressure or vacuum that builds during power steering fluid thermal cycling.

Normal venting operation can lead to a film of misted/vented power steering fluid on the exterior surface of the reservoir body.

Depending on application, environmental conditions and maintenance practices, the amount of vented fluid film can vary.

There are instances where fluid film buildup can pool along the reservoir body seam line. Certain applications/operating environments can lead to an excessive amount of debris accumulating on the vented fluid film.

Correction:

If cap is damaged:

Thoroughly wash and wipe clean the reservoir body >> Ensure power steering fluid level is within limits >> Replace the fill cap with a new part.

If damaged fill cap symptoms are not observed:

Thoroughly wash and wipe clean the reservoir body >> Ensure power steering fluid level is within limits >> Maintaining reservoir fluid at "**mid-level**" can potentially reduce misted/vented fluid film buildup.

*If the vented fluid film path is shown to come from the lower surface of the fill neck, the fill cap can be rotated 180° and reinstalled. This will orient the cap vent path to pointing up.

Normal Fill Cap Venting



Examples of Damaged Fill Caps



[SS 3163 FTL Power Steering Reservoir Fill Cap Vent... - DTNA Solutions](#)