How it Works Externally Controlled Compressors

All externally controlled compressors have an internal solenoid operated by a two-wire harness. This control solenoid is responsible for the swash plate angle that balances refrigerant pressure within the compressor.

While earlier models of externally controlled compressors were clutchless, newer models are designed with a clutch. If installing a new externally controlled compressor, the installer may notice a delay in function as soon as the vehicle is turned on. The compressor will not immediately begin to function as soon as the vehicle and A/C system is turned on. Externally controlled compressors for late model vehicles need a command from the ECU to begin pumping. This may take a few minutes on a new install, depending on the vehicle.



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