MERCRUISER SERVICE BULLETIN

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Bleeding Air from Hydraulic Tilt and Trim System

BLEEDING AIR FROM HYDRAULIC TILT AND TRIM SYSTEM - 1967 MerCruiser 160-120 and 80

Under normal conditions, Power Tilt and Power Trim units are self-bleeding; however, in event of partial or complete loss of fluid, the system, necessarily, must be purged of air. Use the following bleeding procedure:

Keep pump reservoir filled at all times with Quicksilver Formula 4 (20W) Oil.

POWER TILT CYLINDER BLEEDING PROCEDURE - 1967 MerCruiser 160-120 and 80

1. With drive unit all the way down in normal operating position, disconnect cylinders from aft anchor pin and lower aft end of cylinders until both are in a near vertical position.
2. While maintaining the pump reservoir at capacity with Quicksilver Formula 4 (20W) Oil, run hydraulic pump "up" until both cylinders are fully extended.
3. Disconnect one hydraulic hose from its cylinder and slowly retract cylinder by hand while maintaining vertical position until excess air and oil is expelled and cylinder bottoms out. *NOTE: MerCruiser 80 cylinders on some models will retract themselves by an internal spring.*
4. Run pump in "up" direction for a second or two to purge air from the hydraulic hose and reconnect hose to cylinder.
5. Repeat Steps 3 and 4 on other cylinder.
6. Reconnect cylinders to aft anchor pin.

POWER TRIM CYLINDER BLEEDING PROCEDURE - 1967 MerCruiser 160 and 120

Bleeding "Down" Side of Cylinder

1. With drive unit all the way down in normal operating position, disconnect aft end of cylinders from drive shaft housing and remove rear mounting pin.
2. Loop a length of rope thru lifting eye in top cover of drive shaft housing and tie each cylinder to hold in a horizontal position.
3. Run hydraulic pump in "down" position until both piston rods are fully retracted. Check oil level of pump to be certain that it is full.
4. Disconnect aft hose on one cylinder and run pump in "up" direction. This will extend the piston rod of this cylinder, and oil and air will be forced out of the cylinder port.
5. Run pump in the "down" direction for a few short periods to purge any air in hose line to cylinder. When free of air, connect hose back to cylinder.
6. Repeat Steps "4" and "5" for the other cylinder.

DO NOT overtighten hydraulic line fittings, or threads will be stripped out of tilt cylinders or pump hoses. Fittings should be "snugged up" until no leaking occurs at the fitting.