

April 10 Feature

## TWO MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS POSED AT TRADE SHOWS REGARDING VEHICLE RE-FLASHING CAPABILITY

1. **Are you looking for a charger to maintain power while re-flashing?** The **ESS6008MSK**\* is the complete package for the professional shop. When technicians are hunting down drivability intermittent problems that are often caused by poor grounds, the technician will often put the key in the “KEY ON /ENGINE OFF Mode” and go under the hood with their Multi-meter or Scope and check for bad grounds. With the electrical draw on today’s batteries every ground he checks gets a different voltage reading making it difficult to distinguish good grounds from bad.

Several of the Associated Intellamatic® Smart Chargers in addition to charging and performing diagnostics on batteries, or performing deep discharge recovery or rejuvenation also has a power supply that can deliver a clean 13.9 volts depending upon model up to 70 Amps. This will provide the clean power needed (13.9V) to allow the vehicle’s battery and electrical system to stay above the minimum voltage required for re-flashing or give the technician a stable reference voltage to check for bad grounds.

Anytime a scan tool is hooked to a vehicle it’s always a good idea to have a power supply hooked up. If battery voltage drops too low during scan tool diagnostic “off false” codes are set in.

2. **Do you need a charger approved for re-flashing vehicles? YES** - While performing re-flashing or drivability diagnostics on today’s vehicles, the technician will need a Stable Clean Power Supply that can deliver 13.9 Volts for an extended period of time. Draws can vary however, on higher end vehicles the draws can be as much as 65 Amps. Depending on vehicle and model you may need to provide clean stable power from 2 to 12 hours for re-flashing the vehicles computer. Battery voltage must stay above 12.4 volts or more or the re-flashing process won’t take.

Either of these extended service procedures is done in the “KEY ON/ENGINE OFF Mode”. By simply having the vehicle’s doors open you can have up to a 15 Amp draw just for interior lights, in addition to interior lights you can have high draws from headlights popping on, blower motors, electric fuel pumps, navigation systems, other accessories in the vehicle plus a high number of onboard computers wake up when the key is in the on position. There is no way a vehicle battery can support all of these draws even if it’s one of the new high-tech AGM batteries found in many of today’s vehicles

