

Product Information Bulletin

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SUBJECT: GEO End Of Siding Chassis, A53231

NO: PIB 3-05

CONCERN: Overheating of Fuse Holder Under Heavy Load

DATE: 5-13-2005

CLASS / ACTION: OPERATIONAL / OPTIONAL

I. BACKGROUND

During testing it was observed that when the A53231 GEO End of Siding chassis was required to continuously light nine 25-Watt bulbs, excessive heat was generated on the GEO chassis front terminal panel in the immediate area of the 30-amp fuse holder. The high current eventually caused the fuse holder to overheat and fail.

To eliminate the overheating problem and allow the chassis to reach full current capacity, the front-panel 30-amp fuse was eliminated and an external protection device was added.

II. EQUIPMENT AFFECTED

This bulletin applies to all GEO End of Siding chassis, assembly part number 9000-53231-0001 with a hardware revision level of A1. This information appears on the part number label normally affixed to the right chassis end panel. Refer to the figure below for an example.



Typical Part Number label

III. ACTION REQUIRED

Safetran® recommends that any 9000-53231-001, revision level A1 GEO chassis that may possibly be exposed to current levels exceeding 27 amps (lighting more than seven 25-watt or nine 18-watt signal lamps), be modified by a Safetran representative. This modification can be performed on location if so requested by the railroad.

The modification will involve the following:

- Safetran personnel will remove the 30-amp fuse holder and associated wiring from the GEO chassis and install a hole plug in the panel.
- Safetran personnel will install an external circuit breaker under the direct supervision of the railroad. (breaker specifications: 40-amp, 80 VDC/240 VAC, single pole, magnetic-hydraulic)
- Safetran personnel will minimize the disarrangement of wiring required for this field modification; however, the minimum disarrangement of wiring will involve removing and then reinstalling one track inductor in the GEO chassis. Depending on chassis location and mounting arrangement in the equipment house, some disarrangement of external wiring may also be involved.
- The modification will bring the GEO End Of Siding chassis up to hardware revision level A2. The part number label on the GEO chassis will be updated to reflect the modification.

Once this modification is performed, the A53231 GEO End Of Siding chassis will be able to reliably handle up to 35 amps of operating current; the equivalent of continuously lighting nine 25-watt or eleven 18-watt signal lamps.

If you have any questions concerning this bulletin, please call our Technical Support Department at 1 800 793-7233.