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ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

The electrical system is a 12 volt earth return type employing positive earth polarity on earlier models, and negative earth polarity from first production of Imp II, Chamois II, and Van. It can be broken down into the following units:—

1. Battery.
2. Generator and control box.
3. Starter and starter switch.
4. Ignition system (coil, distributor and plugs).
5. Lamps, switches, direction indicators, windscreen wipers, etc.

We recommend the Avo Model 12 (obtainable from Avo Ltd., 92-96 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, S.W.1) which has been specially designed for automotive use and enables a wide range of checking operations to be carried out with a single instrument.

Polarity

Extreme care must be exercised when fitting service replacements to ensure that they suit the vehicle's earth polarity.

Certain units are interchangeable or adaptable for use with either earth polarity, but others fitted with electronic devices would become irreparably damaged if connected to an opposite polarity. The effects of polarity on the units are summarised as follows:—

D.C. Generators (Dynamos)

These are suitable for both positive and negative earth systems, provided they are repolarized after fitting.

Radios

These are designed for one or other polarity and reversed connections will destroy the transistors. It is possible to alter the internal connections to suit an opposite polarity, but this must be entrusted to an appointed radio dealer.

Electric Clocks and Tachometers

These are designed for one or other polarity and cannot be adapted to suit an opposite polarity. Incorrect connections will render the instrument useless.

Alternators

These are interchangeable. They are polarity conscious to suit one system only, and on no account must any attempt be made to repolarize—irreparable damage would result.