MAINTENANCE MATTERS

E Coach Suspension Calibration

The 102EL3 and E4500 coaches use an Electronically Controlled Air Suspension System, or “ECAS”, to maintain vehicle ride height under a variety of operational and road conditions. This system (consisting of an ECU, a main valve body, driver-operated controls, and three ride height sensors) monitors vehicle status and driver input as well as receiving operational data from other vehicle systems to control the amount of air in the suspension air springs.

Although the ECAS components do not require routine maintenance, replacement of an ECU or ride height sensor may require system re-calibration. If the ECU is replaced, the previous calibration can be re-used. However, if a ride height sensor is replaced, it will need a new calibration in the ECU.

ECAS calibration requires a laptop computer, special software and a cable kit. The software is available via download by contacting your technical solutions manager; and the cable kit 07-14-1157 can be ordered from MCI Fleet Support. The kit includes two cables and a protocol converter and works through a serial port on your laptop computer.

Find instructions for using the software by clicking here. The last calibration is recorded on a decal next to the ECAS ECU in the front junction box. You may wish to copy these calibration values for reference while re-calibrating. Once you’ve re-calibrated, be sure to record the new values on the same decal.

The capability to calibrate ECAS is a part of any comprehensive coach maintenance program. Proper suspension maintenance will improve passenger comfort, optimize driver control, and minimize wear. Of course, this service is available at any MCI service center, but should you want to do the job on-site, it’s good to know that a cable kit and free software (you supply the computer) is all it takes to do the job yourself.