Overview:

The Auto Start-Stop system was designed to provide the several benefits such as, improved fuel economy and reduced emissions with minimal impact to the driving experience.

When certain vehicle system conditions are present, the Auto Start-Stop system will activate by shutting the engine off, when the vehicle is at a complete stop, the brakes applied and the engine is at normal operating temperature. If these certain conditions are not met, the system will not activate the Auto Start-Stop feature.

There are also vehicle system conditions such as: battery charging or heater and A/C requirements, which may cause the engine to start before releasing the brake pedal.

This feature has characteristics which may lead to questions or discussions from new owners. The Owner’s Manual provides a detailed overview of the Auto Start-Stop system. It is recommended to review this feature with the customer and/or make reference to the Owner’s Manual to provide an understanding of how the system operates and interacts with the driver.

Understanding Auto Start-Stop Technology activation requirements and vehicle system control inputs will provide knowledge for sales, service, and/or customer.
Auto Start-Stop Operation, Knowledge & Technical Information

**System Indicators:**
Vehicles equipped with Auto Start-Stop have variation of the following indicators. Auto Start Stop system messages are displayed in the instrument cluster or message center, depending on the vehicle specific instrument cluster and option content. Refer to the owner’s Manual for vehicle specific indicators.

*Refer to the Owner Guide for Vehicle Specific Indicators*

- Under normal operation, the **GREEN** indicator illuminates when the Auto Start-Stop is enabled.
- The **GREY** indicator illuminates when one or more vehicle system operating conditions necessary to activate the Auto Start-Stop system engine stop, are not within range of the auto start stop system requirements.
- A flashing **AMBER** indicator illuminates when a vehicle system concern is present and the driver needs to restart the vehicle manually.

Perform complete vehicle diagnostics when the amber indicator is illuminated. The driver can disable the Auto Start-Stop system using the deactivation switch (refer to the Owner’s Manual for vehicle specific location and function).

It is important to note that the Auto Start-Stop system is enabled after every key cycle.

**Typical Auto Start-Stop System Inputs (Input From Other Vehicle Systems)**

*Note: The following list is not all-inclusive:*
See the PID list in the IDS Datalogger Powertrain Start Stop selection for the complete list of inputs to the Auto Start-Stop system.

- Vehicle speed is 0 k/m (0 mph).
- Accelerator pedal is released.
- Brake pedal is applied
  - Brake on/off switch activated (indicates ON).
- Clutch Pedal Cruise Control Deactivator Switch indicates clutch pedal is released.
  - (Clutch Pedal in full TOP position of travel) (Manual Transmission only).
- Brake system pressure is approximately 482 kpa (70 psi) or greater.
- ABS is not active.
- Brake Booster vacuum is present and a vacuum change does not occur while the vehicle is stopped.
- Gear selector lever in ‘N’ Neutral for Manual Transmissions and ‘D’ Drive for Auto Transmissions.
- Battery temperature is between 5°C (41°F) to 60°C (140°F).
- A/C system is OFF, or there is no change in the A/C system request while the vehicle is stopped.
- If the A/C system is on, the ambient temperature should be less than 35°C (95°F).
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- Road grade while stopped is less than 15%.
- All doors remain closed and the occupied front seats have the seat belt latched.
- The 110v alternating current inverter (if equipped) is under 10w electrical load and the electrical load does not change while stopped.
- Trailer Harness is not connected.
- Tow/Haul mode is not active.
- 4WD (if equipped) is in the 2WD position and does not change while stopped.
- Electronic Locking Differential (if equipped) is not engaged.
- In-car temperature is steady and no change is requested from the heating or A/C system.
- Engine coolant temperature is at the normal operating temperature.
- Max A/C or defrost is not selected.
- Blower fan control is at one speed setting and a speed change request does not occur while the vehicle is stopped.
- Rear defrost is not selected and a rear defrost request does not occur while the vehicle is stopped.
- Battery and charging system voltage is greater than 11.3 volts.
- Electrical load is less than 65 amps and a voltage or amperage load change does not occur while the vehicle is stopped.
- Steering wheel angle is less than 90° from the center position and a steering input change does not occur while the vehicle is stopped.
- Hill Start Assist is not active.
- Automatic transmission fluid temperature is less than 110°C (230°F).
- Fuel Level is greater than 1/8 full and the low fuel warning is not active.
- Auto Start-Stop system restarts are limited to 10, unless the vehicle speed exceeds 4 km/h (2.5 mph).
Auto Start-Stop Operation, Knowledge & Technical Information

Typical Auto Start-Stop System Input Changes That May Initiate An Engine Start While Stopped

**Note:** The following list is not all-inclusive: See the PID list in the IDS Datalogger Powertrain Start Stop selection for the complete list of inputs to the Auto Start-Stop system.

- Battery voltage drops below 11.3 volts.
- Brake system pressure drops to less than 482 kPa (70 psi), or the brake system pressure is indicating the brakes have been released.
- Clutch Pedal Position Switch indicates Clutch Pedal is fully depressed (Clutch Pedal is in full bottom position) (Manual Transmission only).
- Additional brake system vacuum is requested.
- Rear defrost is switched on (engine restarts after 30 seconds).
- Blower Fan speed request is changed.
- EATC temperature setting is changed.
- Gear selector lever position is moved to any gear except P (Park) (moving to P (Park) allows the shutdown to continue).
- Accelerator pedal is pressed.
- 110v inverter electrical load greater than 10W is detected.
- Vehicle electrical load is increased to greater than 70 amps.
- Vehicle is operating in 4H or 4L mode.

**Diagnosing The Auto Start-Stop System:**

Note: The scan tool Battery Management System (BMS) reset pid only resets the battery’s time-in-service and not the battery State Of Charge (SOC). To update the battery SOC, the vehicle must be driven or allowed to sit (cold soak) for more than 6 hours.

**NOTE:**

- Refer to the Owner’s Manual for the system operation and features. (Reference: Table of Contents: “Unique Driving Characteristics-Auto Start Stop”)

- Refer to the PC/ED Manual for the engine control system description and operation and the diagnostic procedures. (Reference: “Section 1-Powertrain Control Software-Auto Start Stop”)

- Refer to the appropriate Workshop Manual section for the vehicle systems description and operation and the diagnostic procedures. (Reference: “Section 303”)

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Additional References:
Start Stop Video Overview for F-150 - Other vehicles similar operation
http://fordtube.dealerconnection.com/video.php?video_key=bd8ed7a6405d3562638858b674cc6c70

Start-Stop Video Overview for Ford Cars and SUV’s
http://fordtube.dealerconnection.com/video.php?video_key=b4973d599ec3f0fc7737b8aeaefc869b