



RECALL 18V-314: ELECTRICAL POWER DISTRIBUTION: BATTERY CABLE

New information provided by this revision is preceded by this symbol .

Please perform the procedure outlined in this Service Information on all affected vehicles before customer delivery. In the event the customer has already taken delivery of the vehicle, please perform the procedure the next time the vehicle is in the shop.

This Service Information bulletin replaces SI B61 09 18 **dated May 2018**

What's New:

- SI has been completely revised with repair procedure, parts and warranty information

MODEL

E90 (335D)

SITUATION

BMW Group is conducting a Voluntary Safety Recall (effective May 14, 2018) on certain Model Year 2010-2011 BMW 3 Series Diesel vehicles that were produced from December 2009 through June 2011.

This Recall involves the connection between the positive battery cable and the front power distribution box. The plug-in contact of the positive battery cable at the front power distribution box (Junction Box) may be damaged by vehicle vibrations, which could cause corrosion and increased electrical resistance.



AFFECTED VEHICLES

Approximately 6,591 vehicles are affected by this recall.

Affected vehicles will show the campaign as "Open" when checked either in Warranty Vehicle Inquiry, AIR or ISPA Next and identified with the description:

0061770400 B610918 Recall: Power Supply System.

Affected customers will be notified in July 2018 via First Class mail.



CAUSE

The plug-in contact of the positive battery cable at the front power distribution box may be damaged by vehicle vibrations, which causes corrosion and high resistance leading to high current loads. This impairs the power supply to the front power distribution box, and can cause one or more of the following symptoms:

- The vehicle does not start.
- Various electrical malfunctions, including flickering of the instrument cluster.
- Momentary loss of engine power and loss of power steering assistance.



CORRECTION

Check and replace battery cable connection at front power distribution box.

UPDATE! PROCEDURE

Inspect the positive battery cable behind the front glove box to see if the repair cable is already installed.

Is the repair cable already installed?

Yes - no further action is required.

No - install the repair cable for the positive battery cable. Refer to the attached repair instructions REP 61 11 .."Installing the repair cable of the positive battery cable on the power distribution box".

Note: If the front power distribution box is damaged at the positive battery cable connection it must be replaced. Refer to repair instructions "61 13 050 Removing and installing or replacing fuse box in passenger compartment".

UPDATE! SPECIAL TOOLS NEEDED

Note: A set of these tools listed below were sent to each BMW center in 2013 for the completion of another repair. Refer to SI B04 03 13 if additional tools are needed.

Part Number	Description	Quantity
83 30 2 339 646	Crimping Pliers	1 for each Center
83 30 2 339 647	Matrix CS 40	1 for each Center
83 30 2 337 974	Cable Shears	1 for each Center

UPDATE! PARTS INFORMATION

Part Number	Description	Quantity
61 12 9 312 133	Repair cable for positive battery terminal	1

And, only if needed:

Part Number	Description	Quantity
Refer to ETK	Power distribution box, front	1

UPDATE! WARRANTY INFORMATION

Reimbursement for this Recall will be via normal claim entry utilizing the following information:

Defect Code:	0061770400	
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Installing the Repair Cable

Labor Operation:	Labor Allowance:	Description:
00 66 093	19 FRU	Installing the repair cable for the positive battery cable (Main work)

Or:		
00 66 670	17 FRU	Installing the repair cable for the positive battery cable (Plus work – Vehicle already in the workshop)

And, if necessary, also:

Labor Operation:	Labor Allowance:	Description:
61 99 000	6 FRU	Work time for the additional work to replace the power distribution box, front, with the installation of the repair cable for the battery positive cable (Associated work with labor operations 00 66 093 or 00 66 670)

Work time labor operation code 61 99 000 is not considered a Main labor operation. Also, since the “work time” FRU allowance to be claimed is specified, a separate punch time is not required.

Or:

Repair Cable Already Installed, Inspection Only

Labor Operation:	Labor Allowance:	Description:
00 66 094	7 FRU	Repair cable already installed, inspect only, no repair is required (Main work)
Or:		
00 66 671	5 FRU	Repair cable already installed, inspect only, no repair is required (Plus work - Vehicle already in the workshop)

And, as applicable:

Alternative Mobility Solution (AMS) for Vehicle Owners

This Recall repair qualifies for Alternative Mobility Solution (AMS) expense reimbursement, claim this item under the Defect Code noted above as follows:

- Sublet Code 2 - Itemize the AMS sublet amount on the repair order and in the claim comment section.

Please refer to SI [B01 29 16](#) for additional information.

Overlapping Labor Procedure – Other Repairs

If invoicing the KSD2 flat rate labor operation codes for other repair work results in overlapping labor, for those flat rate labor operations that are affected, you can now:

- Replace the stated KSD2 “FRU allowance” with a “reduced FRU value” to eliminate the overlapping labor.

For help in identifying the overlapping labor, please refer to the AIR FRU Plausibility Check (Overlapping Labor Tool) that is located in the AIR Client.

Eligible other repair work being claimed under a different defect code will require separate punch times.

On the repair order and in the claim comment section, please identify and itemize those labor operations being claimed with a “reduced FRU value.”

TREAD Act - Previous Customer-Pay Repairs

If your center is presented with a reimbursement request for a “qualifying customer-pay repair” that was performed on an “affected vehicle” **prior** to the release of this Recall Service Information bulletin, BMW of North America, LLC (“BMW NA”) will reimburse this previous repair.

Customer-pay Invoice Review and Reimbursement Procedure

1. Review and verify that the previous customer-pay invoice (BMW center or independent repair shop) contains a repair that was performed to “address the issue” described in this “Recall” Service Information bulletin.
2. If this prior repair qualifies, reimburse the customer (labor and parts).
3. Submit for this customer-paid repair expense under Defect Code **85 99 00 12 NA**, as follows:
 - Sublet Code “3”
 - Dollar amount (with no markup)
 - Comment: Recall Campaign: Power Distribution Box Positive Supply Connector - Reimbursement for allowable expenses that relate to performing a prior qualifying customer-pay repair.
 - Itemize the sublet amount on the repair order and in the claim comments
4. Retain the “original” customer pay invoice in your files; this documentation may be requested by BMW during the claim review process).

Note: A previously reimbursed repair, a repair performed on a non-affected vehicle, and/or, the diagnosis and repair of other “unrelated issues” on an affected or non-affected vehicles does not qualify for reimbursement.

This claim submission for the “prior customer-pay reimbursement,” when it is submitted as outlined under Defect Code “85 99 00 12 NA,” will not close the “Open” Safety Recall on the vehicle.

The applicable “open” Recall repair must still be performed on the vehicle.

Posted: Thursday, May 24, 2018

ATTACHMENTS

View PDF attachment [B610918 Recall Notice](#).

View PDF attachment [2018-E90Diesel-PowerDistributionBox-QA-\(11May2018\)](#).

View PDF attachment [B610918 Repair Procedure](#).

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SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

To: All Center Operators, Sales Managers, Service Manager, Parts Manager and Warranty Processor

RE: Recall 18V-XXX: Electrical Power Distribution: Battery Cable B61 09 18

BMW Group is conducting a Voluntary Safety Recall (effective May 14, 2018) on certain Model Year 2010-2011 BMW 3 Series Diesel vehicles that were produced from December 2009 through June 2011.

This Recall involves the connection between the positive battery cable and the front power distribution box. The plug-in contact of the positive battery cable at the front power distribution box (Junction Box) may be damaged by vehicle vibrations, which could cause corrosion and increased electrical resistance.

Owners will be notified by First Class mail about the Recall and will be instructed to bring their vehicles in for a free repair when parts are available.

Please be reminded that it is a violation of federal law (The Safety Act) for you to sell, lease or deliver any new motor vehicle covered by this notification until the recall repair has been performed. This means that centers may not legally deliver new motor vehicles to consumers until they are fixed or use/sell replacement equipment/parts subject to this recall. Note also that substantial civil penalties apply to violations of the Safety Act.

Also, you should not sell, lease or deliver any Certified Pre-Owned or used vehicles subject to a safety recall until the repair is completed.

Please follow any special instructions that we provide to you for the return or disposition of recall parts.

We appreciate all your assistance with this Recall.

Repair instruction

Installing the repair cable for the positive battery cable of the power distribution box

REP-REP-RAE9061-6111X01 - V.5

61 11 ... Installing the repair cable for the positive battery cable of the power distribution box

Special tools required:

- 2 337 974
- 2 339 646
- 2 339 647
- 0 444 131



The repair instructions describe the installation of repair cables for positive battery terminal (BMW Group Parts Department 9 312 133).

Read and comply with notes on handling wiring harnesses and wiring!

Read and comply with notes on crimping stops!

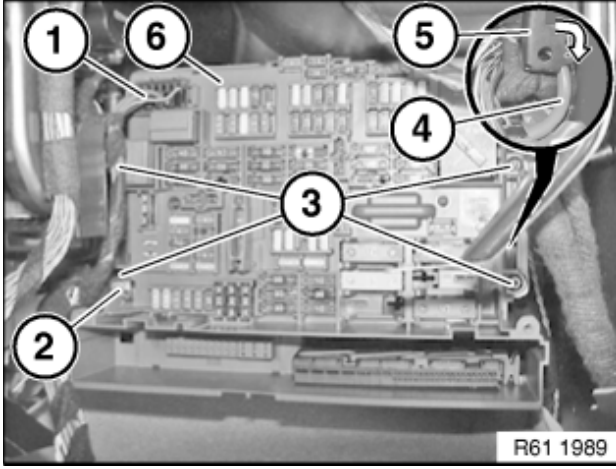
Necessary preliminary work:

Remove glove box.



Work is shown on the E90 by way of example.

There may be differences in detail in the case of other vehicle types and equipment specifications.



Disconnect plug connection (1).

Release the wiring harness mounting (2) from the power distribution box (6).

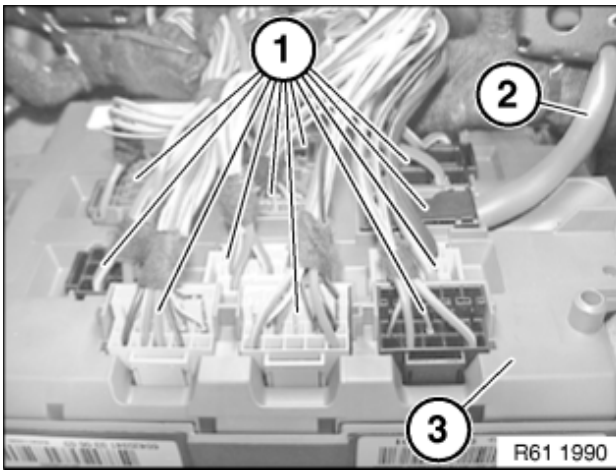
Loosen screws (3).



Attention!

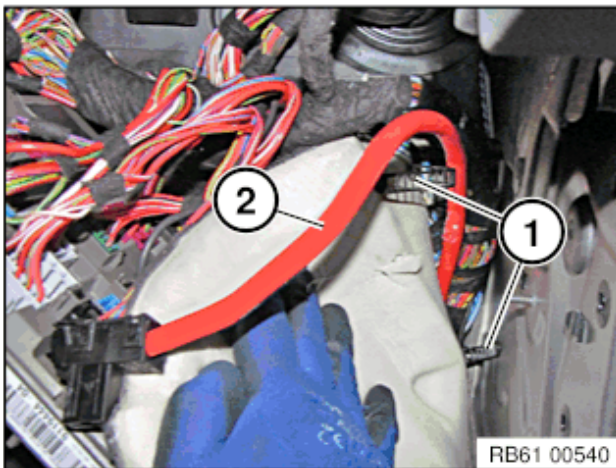
Risk of damage!

Fold the power distribution box (6) forward. Feed positive battery cable (4) out of holder (5) in the direction of the arrow.



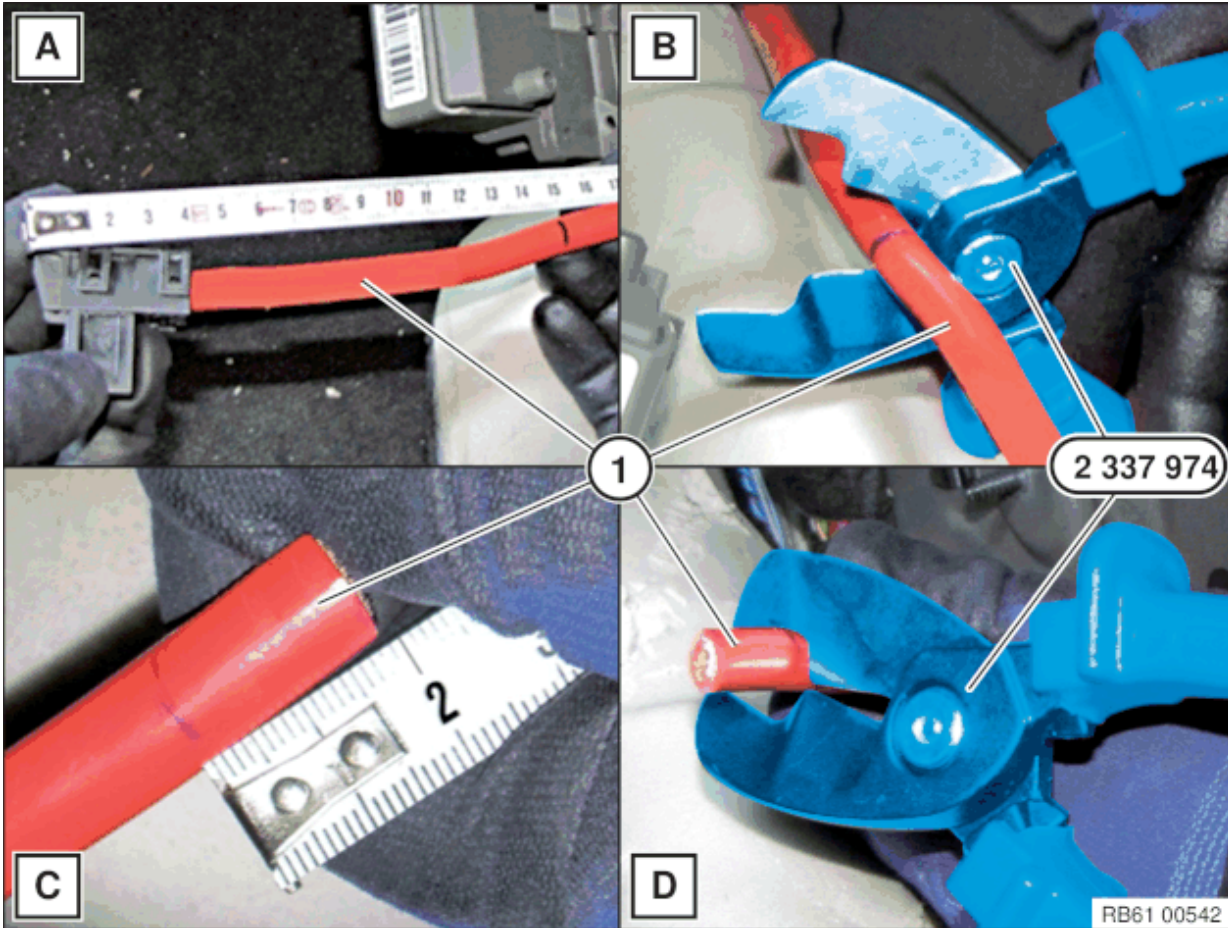
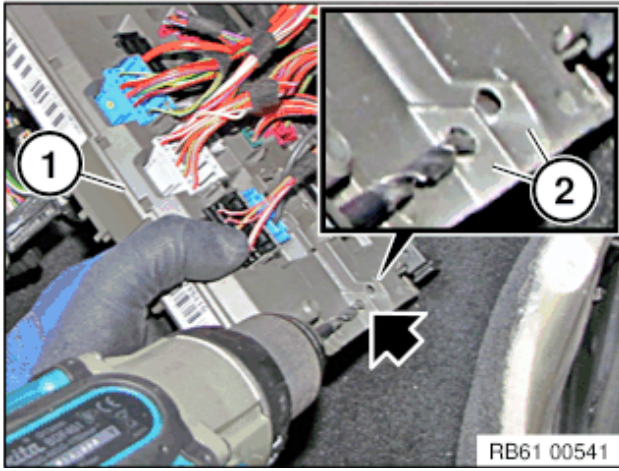
Disconnect the positive battery cable (2).

Extra plug connections (1) on the back of the power distribution box (3) must not be detached.



Open retaining straps (1). Pull out positive battery cable (2) as far as possible.

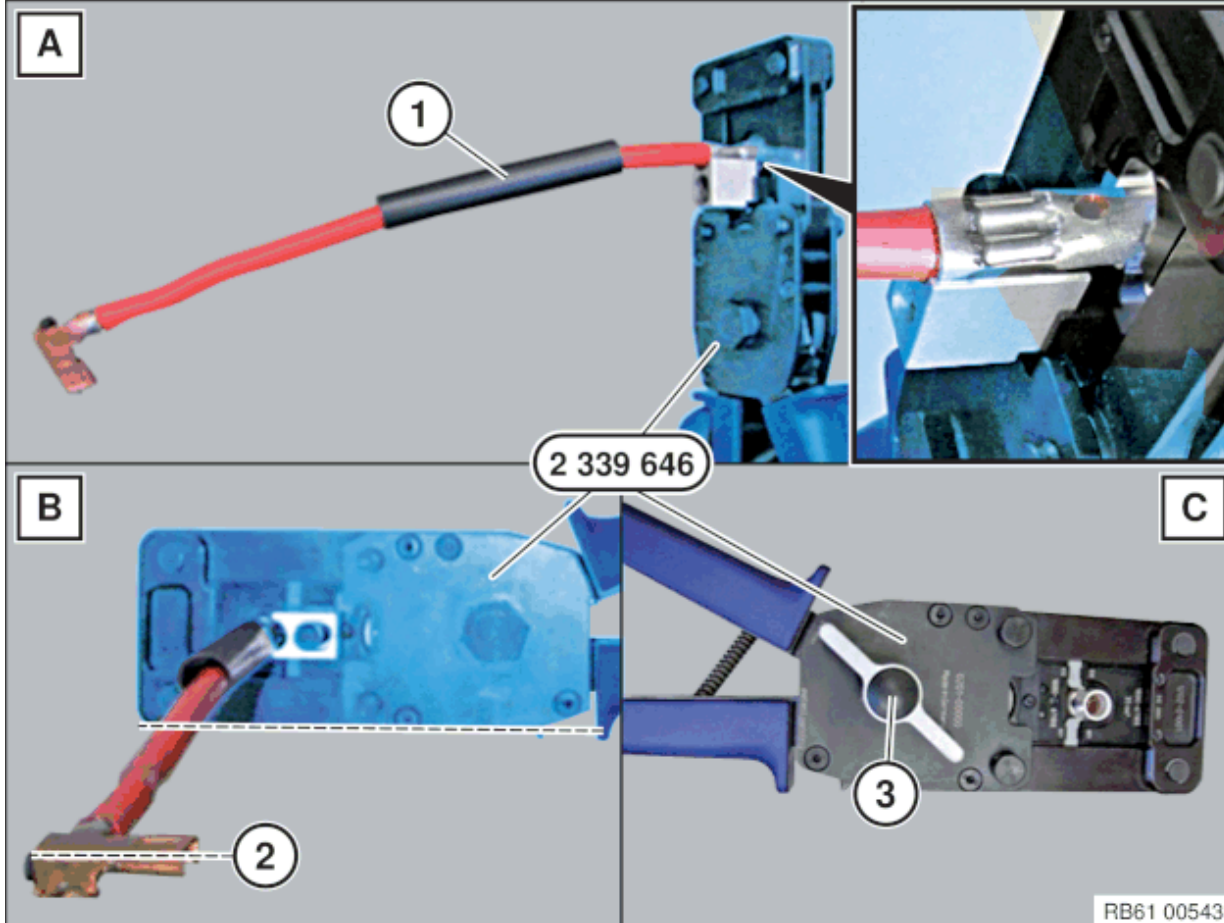
Predrill both bridges (2) of the power distribution box (1) at the area marked with an arrow with a 2 mm drill. Then drill through with a 5 mm drill.



- A. Measure a 15 cm length as shown and mark on the positive battery cable (1).
- B. Cut off the positive battery cable (1) at the marked location with special tool 2 337 974.
- C. At the cut-off end of the positive battery cable (1), measure and mark 2 cm.
- D. Carefully strip insulation off of the positive battery cable (1) at the marked location with special tool 2 337 974.



Do not damage the strands during stripping!

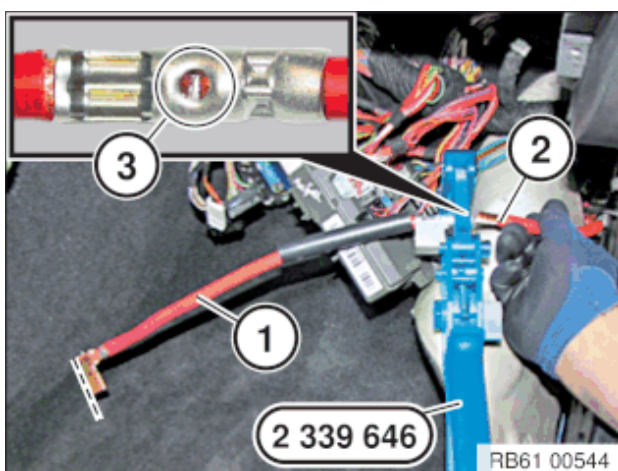


A. Attach heat-shrink tubing (1) to positive battery cable. Insert the positive battery cable in special tool 2 339 646 as shown.

(Pliers 2 339 646, die plate 2 339 647)

B. Position the contact (2) as shown.

C. Close the special tool. Turn the screw plug (3) counter-clockwise and move it to the position shown.



Crimp the vehicle-side positive battery cable (2) and the repair positive battery cable (1) using the special tool 2 339 646.

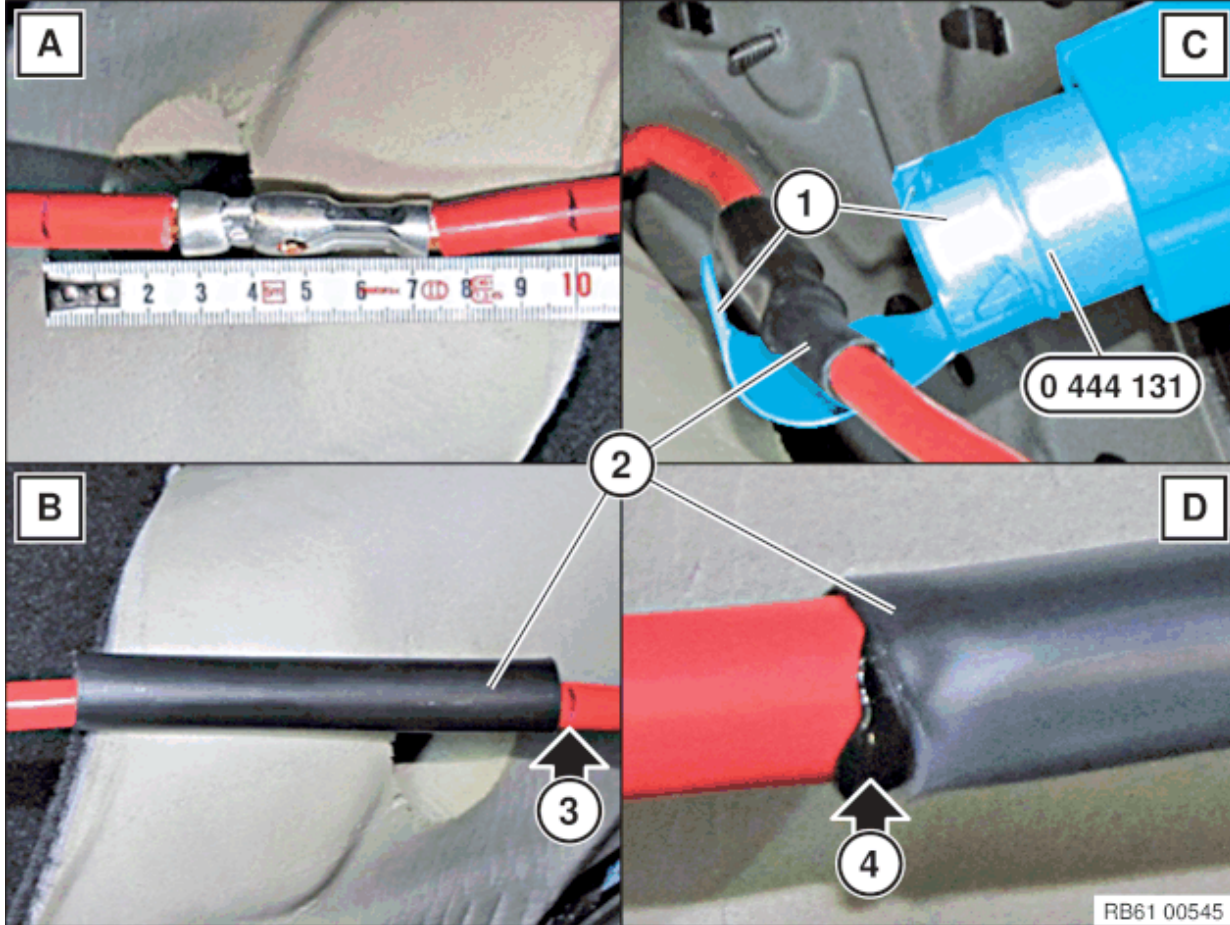
(Pliers 2 339 646, die plate 2 339 647)

After crimping, copper wires of the vehicle-side positive battery cable (2) must be visible in the opening (3).



Pliers 2 339 646 must be operated approx. 20 times during the crimping process.

Crimping process is complete when pliers 2 339 646 automatically open.



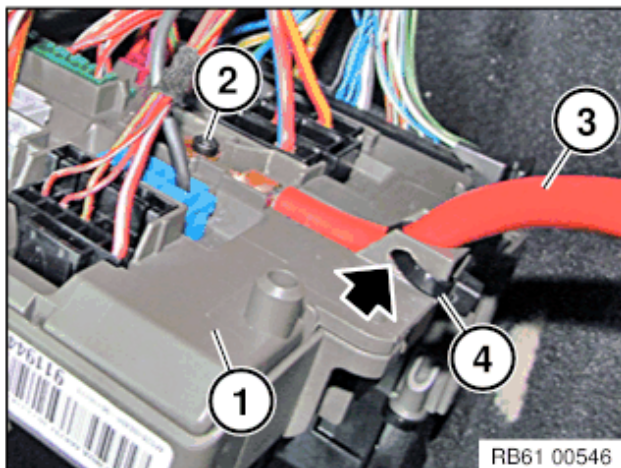
- A. Centrally measure and mark distance = 10 cm as shown.
- B. Position the heat-shrink tubing (2) over the crimping location so that mark (3) is must barely visible.
- C. Shrink the heat-shrink tubing (2) with hot air blower 0 444 131.
(Heat shrink temperature 400 °C)
- D. After shrinking, adhesive (4) must emerge from both sides of the heat-shrink tubing (2).



Attention!

Risk of damage!

It is imperative that you use a heat-shrink tubing reflector (1).



Connect the connector contact of repair positive battery cable (3) to power distribution box (1) by **pressing bolt (2)** all the way to the limit position.

Tighten screw (2). Tightening torque: 1,0 Nm



While tightening bolt (2), continue pushing down the connector contact.

After tightening, bolt (2) must be flush with the connector contact.



Separate the connector contact if bolt (2) has already been tightened:

Loosen bolt (2) by approx. 4 rotations. Using a suitable object, strike bolt (2) lightly to release the connector contact.

Remove the connector contact from power distribution box (1).

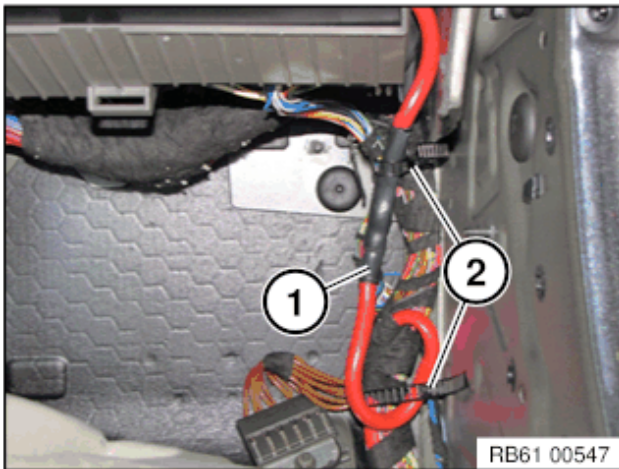
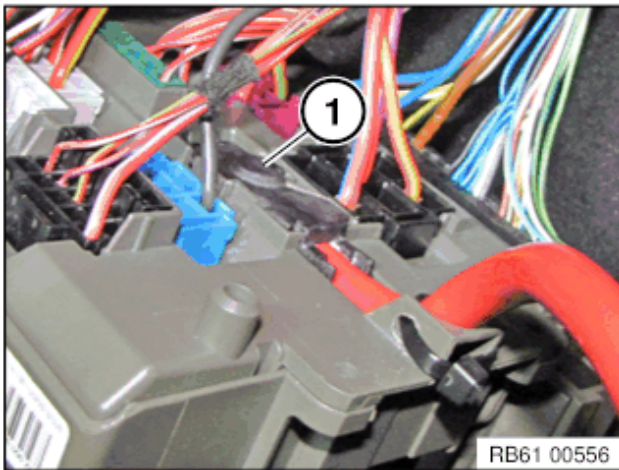
Fasten the repair positive battery cable (3) on the power distribution box (1) at the location indicated by the arrow using a cable strap (4).

Mount the cap (1) flush.



If cap (1) cannot be flush-mounted, the connector contact below it is not mounted correctly.

In this case, release the connector contact as described in the previous operation and connect it again.



Fasten the positive battery cable (1) at locations (2).

**Power Supply System
Safety Recall 18V-xxx
Model Year 2010-2011
BMW 3 Series Diesel
*Last Updated 5/11/2018***

- Q1. Which BMW Group models in the US are potentially affected by this Safety Recall?**
Approximately 6,591 Model Year 2010-2011 BMW 3 Series Diesel vehicles in the US, produced between December 2009 and October 2011, are potentially affected.
- Q2. What is the specific issue?**
The issue involves the vehicle's power supply system. Electrical power is transferred from the battery (located in the trunk) to the fuse box (located behind the glove compartment), via the positive battery cable.

Due to relative movements at the connection point between the battery cable and the fuse box, the connection, and hence the transfer of electrical power, may be affected.
- Q3. What can happen as a result of this issue?**
Over time, this could eventually lead to a non-starting condition. In some cases, a momentary flickering of the instrument cluster, or a momentary shut-down of the engine could occur. In a rare case, engine stalling and a loss of certain vehicle systems could occur and increase the risk of a crash.
- Q4. This sounds familiar. Did BMW Group conduct a Safety Recall before?**
Yes, the BMW Group conducted a Safety Recall in 2013 for Model Year 2007 – 2012 BMW 1 Series, 3 Series and Z4 models.
- Q5. Why is the BMW 3 Series Diesel model being added?**
Over time, the diesel model has become susceptible to the issue that was identified in 2013.
- Q5a. I own an M3. Was the M3 included in the 2013 Safety Recall? Is it included now?**
BMW issued a Service Action for the M3 in 2016. A Service Action means that when your M3 is at a BMW center, the repair will be performed. BMW took this action for the M3 because they do not have the same power supply system design as the 3 Series. The electrical connections between the battery, the fuse box, and vehicle systems is different between the M3 and the 3 Series.
- Q6. Why are other BMW Group vehicles not included in this Safety Recall?**
Other vehicles have a different power supply system design.
- Q7. How did BMW Group become aware of this issue?**
BMW Group became aware of this issue through its quality control procedures.
- Q8. Can I determine if this issue exists in my vehicle?**
If the vehicle does not start, if you notice a momentary flickering of the instrument cluster, or a momentary shut-down of the engine, your vehicle could be experiencing the issue. If engine stalling and a loss of certain vehicle systems occur, your vehicle could be experiencing the issue.
- Q9. What should I do if I notice this condition in my vehicle?**
If engine stalling and a loss of certain vehicle systems occur, pull off the road to a safe location away from traffic, and switch off the engine. All occupants should carefully exit the vehicle and move to a location away from traffic. Do not continue to drive your vehicle.

Contact BMW Roadside Assistance at 1-800-332-4269 immediately to have your vehicle brought to the nearest authorized BMW center.

**Power Supply System
Safety Recall 18V-xxx
Model Year 2010-2011
BMW 3 Series Diesel
*Last Updated 5/11/2018***

Q10. Can I continue to drive my vehicle?

Yes. However, when you receive a letter asking you to have this Safety Recall performed by an authorized BMW center, please do so as soon as possible. If you are not the only driver of this vehicle, please advise all other drivers of this important information.

Q10a. Will BMW provide me with a loaner vehicle until a repair part is available?

If you request a loaner vehicle and replacement parts are not available, we have directed our authorized BMW centers to assist customers with their alternate transportation needs.

Q11. How will my vehicle be repaired?

The positive battery cable connector will be replaced with an improved version, and the cable will be secured to the fuse box to prevent movement between the cable and the fuse box.

Q12. Is BMW Group aware of any accidents, injuries or fires, in the US, involving these BMW Group vehicles associated with this Safety Recall?

No.

Q13. How will I be informed of this Safety Recall?

You will receive a letter in July via First Class mail advising you of this Safety Recall. Depending upon parts availability, this letter may request you to schedule an appointment with an authorized BMW center to have this Safety Recall performed. In cases where parts are not immediately available, you will receive a second letter when parts become available, advising you to schedule an appointment with an authorized BMW center at that time to have this Safety Recall performed. You can locate your nearest authorized BMW center at www.bmwusa.com/dealers.

To ensure the BMW Group has your most recent contact and vehicle information, please register your vehicle at www.bmwusa.com/myBMW. Registration is free, and will give you access to factory initiated campaigns and other information specific to your vehicle.

Q14. How long will the repair take?

This repair will take approximately 1 hour; however, additional time may be required depending upon your BMW center's schedule. The repair will be performed for free by your authorized BMW center.

Q15. Do I have to wait for my letter to have my vehicle serviced?

Yes. We are in the process of implementing this Safety Recall campaign to ensure that the necessary parts are at the BMW centers prior to sending out the owner notification letters. For the latest updates to this Safety Recall, please visit www.bmwusa.com/recall.

Q16. I see the "TREAD Act Customer Reimbursement Plan" attached to my letter. Can you explain what that is about? Am I eligible for reimbursement?

If you have already had this repair performed at your own expense, you may be eligible for reimbursement of certain expenses that you incurred.