SERVICE BULLETIN

Original Issue Date: **3/01**
Model: **All Kohler Generator Set and Transfer Switch Models**
Market: **All**
Subject: **Generator Set and Transfer Switch Year of Manufacture and Model Designation**

Introduction

Use this bulletin to (1) determine the year of manufacture of a generator set or transfer switch and (2) understand the model code designation. Kohler Co. created this bulletin realizing that distributors and dealers encounter customers wishing to date their equipment as well as understand the significance of the model numbers.

Information Needed to Identify Products

The serial number determines the year of manufacture. If the factory issues a serial number late in the year, the unit may not have been completed until the following year.

Determine the following information prior to using this bulletin.

- Model number*
- Serial number (S/N).* The serial number has 2-6 digits. Most serial numbers have 6 digits. Record the serial number exactly as it appears on the nameplate including leading zeros such as 002500.
- Original paint color of equipment

* Data printed on or stamped into the **generator set or transfer switch nameplate.**

Review any documentation accompanying the equipment as it may also be helpful in determining the year of manufacture.

If you suspect the **unit was repainted** scratch off a small area in an inconspicious place to determine the original paint color.

Significant Year of Manufacture Notes and Exceptions

The serial number sequence reverted to 000000 in August, **1977**. Therefore a given serial number may appear in two different years. For example, serial number 300000 could have been manufactured in either 1968 or 1992, and paint color distinguishes early models from late models.

Prior to **1985**, Kohler distributed Westinghouse automatic transfer switches identified by a style and assembly number but no serial number. You cannot determine the year of transfer switch manufacture without a serial number.

The serial numbers of transfer switches built since **1985** begin with a **K-**.

In **1994**, Kohler Co. changed to a new serial number system. For years 1994 and later use the **KOHLERnet** Warranty section to determine the unit build dates. KOHLERnet is the Internet based tool through which Kohler authorized distributors have access to generator set information.

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How to Determine the Year of Manufacture

Use the following procedure to determine the year of manufacture of the generator set and/or transfer switch.

1.1 **Determine the available known information** from the product, product nameplate, and/or other documentation such as a dated sales invoice or operation manual.

- **Model Number or Model kW/kVA**. This information is required for years 1923–1935 with serial numbers 30000 and below.
- **Serial Number.**
- **Original Paint Color of Equipment**. Colors include gray, blue, gold, and beige. *White is the original paint color for marine generator sets.*

1.2 Go to **Figure 1** and follow the instructions in the titles. Figure 1 provides a year of manufacture range when only the unit paint color is known. Figure 1 will direct you to use either Figure 2, Figure 3, or KOHLERnet to determine the year of manufacture.

Or go to step 3 for another means to determine the year of manufacture with examples.

1.3 **Choosing Figure 2 or Figure 3**. Use the information below to determine which figure to select to determine the year of manufacture based on the available information from step 1.

- Use the **model or kW/kVA number and serial number** to determine the year of manufacture. If the serial number is unavailable or illegible determine the *range of possible years* of manufacture based strictly on the original color.
- If the unit is white or not one of the four previously listed colors base the year of manufacture on the serial number.
- Use Figure 2 for gray units up to serial number 30000 with 2-5 digits. For all other serial numbers with 5 or 6 digits go to Figure 3.
- If you go to Figure 3 be aware that the serial number sequence *reverted to 000000* in August, 1977.

Figure 2 example. The generator set has model number K, serial number 4980 with 4 digits, and the original paint color is gray.

1.4 Go to Figure 2. Scan the model number designations at the top for model number K.

1.5 Search down the column for the first number which is greater than or equal to the known serial number. In this example, the first serial number greater than or equal to 4980 is 4988.

1.6 Follow the 4988 row to the year of manufacturer column. The year of manufacture is *1930* and the original paint color is gray.

Figure 3 example. The generator set has serial number 200000 and the original paint color is gold.

1.7 Go go Figure 3. Locate the rows containing the original paint color gold.

1.8 Search down the column for the first number which is greater than or equal to the known serial number. In this example, the first serial number greater than or equal to 200000 is 218619.

1.9 Follow the 218619 row to the year of manufacture column. The year of manufacture is *1987* and the original paint color is gold.

Generator Set and Transfer Switch Model Code Information

Find the nameplate on the generator set or transfer switch. Read the information below and use the tables on the following pages to interpret the model code.

Generator Set Model Code

Refer to Figure 4 to interpret the generator set nameplate model number.

The Primary Designation group contains several letters which, although they apply to the unit, may not appear in the model number.

Model designation of some units built since 1995 contain no AC voltage, phase, or wire code.

The model designation reflects the factory configuration. The nameplate may not reflect field changes to voltage/frequency or fuel system.

Transfer Switch Model Code

Refer to Figure 5 to interpret the transfer switch nameplate model number.

The transfer switch model designation system defines the characteristics and ratings of transfer switches.

Product Type	If the Original Paint Color is	Then the Range of Years for Manufacture is	If the Serial Number is	Go to	and Determine the Year of Manufacture using the
Generator Set	Gray	1923-1935	30215 or below	Figure 2	model number and serial number or model kW/kVA and serial number
		1936-1949	30216-141392	Figure 3	serial number
	Blue	1950-1974	141393-430941		
	Gold	1974-1976	407882-469399		
		1977-1987	218619 or less		
	Beige	1988-1994	218620-401436		
		1995-	401437 or above	KOHLERnet	model number and serial number
	White or non-original color	1923-1935	30215 or below	Figure 2	model number and serial number or model kW/kVA and serial number
		1936-1944	30216-99999	Figure 3	serial number
		1944-1976*	100000-469399		
		1977-1994*	000001-401436		
		1995-*	401437 or above	KOHLERnet	model number and serial number
Transfer Switch	Gray	1923-1935	30215 or below	Figure 2	model number and serial number or model kW/kVA and serial number
		1936-1949	30216-141392	Figure 3	serial number
	Blue	1950-1974	141393-430941		
	Gold	1974-1976	407882-468399		
		1977-1984	161057 or less		
		1985-1987	K-22419 or less		
	Beige (G120 is gray)	1988-1994	K-22420-K-57914		
		1995-	K-57915 or above	KOHLERnet	model number and serial number

* If the unit is white or a non-original paint color, the year of manufacture cannot be determined solely from the serial number since the serial numbers reverted to 000000 in August, 1977. A dated sales invoice or operation manual may help substantiate the year of manufacture.

Figure 1 Generator Set and Transfer Switch Year of Manufacture Determination Procedure

Year of Mfr.	Original Paint Color	Model Number (Letter Designation)						Model kW/kVA				
		D	E	K	L	S	T	5 kW	10 kW	1.5 kVA	5 kVA	10 kVA
1923	Gray	3000	3000	200	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1924	Gray	5000	—	362	116	1353	77	—	—	—	—	—
1925	Gray	9171	3258	726	140	2164	—	—	—	—	—	—
1926	Gray	16268	3407	1300	—	2862	207	—	—	—	—	—
1927	Gray	16946	4027	1500	238	3244	—	587	508	—	—	—
1928	Gray	20409	4263	4182	—	4154	—	769	—	—	—	—
1929	Gray	22752	22172	—	—	4759	—	865	—	—	—	—
1930	Gray	23629	—	4988	—	5173	5216	1039	680	—	—	—
1931	Gray	24133	23832	5119	4994	6000	6000	—	—	—	—	—
1932	Gray	24638	—	5518	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1933	Gray	24648	—	—	—	6548	—	—	713	—	—	—
1934	Gray	25353	—	—	—	—	6890	—	—	—	—	—
1935	Gray	30215	30453	30000	30000	30000	30000	30000	30000	30000	30000	30000

Figure 2 Generator Set and Transfer Switch Model Number and Last Serial Number for 1923–1935

Year of Manufacture	Original Paint Color	Serial Number
1936	Gray	32377
1937	Gray	34250
1938	Gray	37000
1939	Gray	39000
1940	Gray	46500
1941	Gray	52000
1942	Gray	62227
1943	Gray	81087
1944	Gray	102287
1945	Gray	114000
1946	Gray	122700
1947	Gray	123006
1948	Gray	132366
1949	Gray	141392
1950	Blue	153315
1951	Blue	163499
1952	Blue	171245
1953	Blue	180280
1954	Blue	189976
1955	Blue	197487
1956	Blue	205516
1957	Blue	212200
1958	Blue	218300
1959	Blue	223000
1960	Blue	230000

Year of Manufacture	Original Paint Color	Serial Number
1961	Blue	237000
1962	Blue	244500
1963	Blue	252100
1964	Blue	261000
1965	Blue	270200
1966	Blue	285103
1967	Blue	295500
1968	Blue	307918
1969	Blue	321568
1970	Blue	335653
1971	Blue	351748
1972	Blue	371140
1973	Blue	407881
1974	Blue or Gold	430941
1975	Gold	441415
1976	Gold	469399
1977	Gold	011999
1978	Gold	048778
1979	Gold	075839
1980	Gold	093205
1981	Gold	112851
1982	Gold	124140
1983	Gold	140515
1984	Gold	161057

Year of Mfr.	Original Paint Color	Gen. Set Serial Number	Transfer Switch Serial Number
1985*	Gold	176796	K-16985
1986	Gold	195319	K-19647
1987	Gold	218619	K-22419
1988	Beige	238303	K-26138
1989	Beige	257820	K-30064
1990	Beige	275227	K-34675
1991	Beige	292818	K-38703
1992	Beige	323340	K-47259
1993	Beige	350865	K-52150
1994†	Beige‡	401436	K-57914

* Starting in 1985, transfer switch serial numbers begin with a K-.

† Determine unit build dates using **KOHLERnet** for beige units with generator set serial numbers greater than 350865 and transfer switch serial numbers greater than K-52150.

‡ Transfer switch model G120 is painted gray.

Figure 3 Generator Set and Transfer Switch Model Number and Last Serial Number for 1936–1994

Generator Set Model Designation

Use the information below to interpret the generator set model designation.

Sample Model Designation

150ROZJ-461

Nominal Wattage (1–4 digits)

For models below 1000 watts, this number represents the generator set's capacity in watts. For models greater than 999 watts, this number represents nominal wattage in kilowatts.

Starting System (1 letter)

A	Automatic	L	Pushbutton at generator and limited remote control
B	Automatic battery charger	M	Manual
C	Pushbutton at generator	P	Power
E	14-volt battery charging	R	Remote control
G	Kohler L engine	T	Two bearing generator
H	Hydraulic start		

Primary Designation (1–4 letters)

B	Briggs engines	O	Diesel or kerosene fuel
C	12-volt cranking	P	Perkins engine
D	36-volt battery charging	R	Mobile/commercial market 12-volt battery charging
E	Emission reduced engine	S	3600 RPM, 3000 RPM
F	50 Hz	T	1200 RPM
G	6 volt cranking	V	180 cycle
H	Housing	W	Wisconsin Motors engine
J	28-volt battery charging	X	Horizontal engine
K	Kohler engine	Y	Rotating field
L	Liquid cooled	Z	Fast-Response™/brushless
M	Air cooled		

Secondary Designation (1–2 digits)*

D	Detroit Diesel	P	Perkins/DDC Series 40
J	John Deere	S	Singapore build Deutz only
JA	John Deere Agricultural	-2	Fast-Response II
K	Deutz	-4	4 cycle engine
N	Rental		

AC Voltage, Phase, and Wires (1–2 digits)†

	60 Hertz	50 Hertz
0	120/240 volt, 3 phase, 4 wire	110/220 volt, 3 phase, 4 wire
1	100 volt, 1 phase, 2 wire	100/200 volt, 1 phase, 3 wire
2	120 volt, 1 phase, 2 wire	110 volt, 1 phase, 2 wire
3	120 volt, 3 phase, 3 wire	110 volt, 3 phase, 3 wire
4	240 volt, 1 phase, 2 wire	220 volt, 1 phase, 2 wire
5	139/240 volt, 3 phase, 4 wire	110/190 volt, 3 phase, 4 wire
6	120/240 volt, 1 phase, 3 wire	110/220 volt, 1 phase, 3 wire
7	277/480 volt, 3 phase, 4 wire	220/380 volt, 3 phase, 4 wire
8	120/208 volt, 3 phase, 4 wire	120/208 volt, 3 phase, 4 wire
9	347/600 volt, 3 phase, 4 wire	120/208 volt, 3 phase, 4 wire
10	Special Voltage	

Cooling and Fuel (1 digit)

0	No engine
1	Gasoline, diesel, or modular spec
2	Combination natural gas/gasoline or straight gas
3	Marine
4	City water-cooled, gasoline or diesel
5	Gasoline, portable
6	Natural gas, portable
7	Direct water-cooled, keel cooled, or remote radiator
8	City water-cooled, gas

* Used after 1987

† Model designation of some units built since 1995 contain no AC voltage, phase, or wire code.

Figure 4 Generator Set Model Designation for Units Built During or After 1936

Transfer Switch Model Designation

Use the information below to interpret the transfer switch model designation.

Sample Model Designation

ZCS-566341-1000

Model (1-4 characters)

Model	Device Code*	Model	Device Code*
G	10, 11, 12	K	1, 10, 12
G120	3, 10	KB	1, 2,10, 12
GLN	8, 12	KN	1, 8, 12
GLS	10, 12	MMS/MMT	5, 7, 10, 12
GN	8, 11, 12	MNS/MNT	5, 9, 10, 12
GTN	8, 11	TES	4, 5, 10, 12
GTS	10, 11	TLS	5, 6, 10, 12
HK	1, 10, 11	ZCB	2, 5, 10, 12
HKN	1, 8, 11	ZCS	5, 10, 12

***Power Switching Device Code**

1 ASCO contactor
2 Bypass-isolation switch
3 Packaged ATS
4 Electrically held contactors
5 Programmed transition function
6 Mechanically held contactors
7 Molded-case circuit breakers
8 Nonautomatic transfer switch
9 Molded-case switches (no overcurrent protection)
10 Automatic transfer switch
11 Kohler contactor, 250 volt max.
12 Kohler contactor, 600 volt max.

Logic (1 digit)

Device	Logic Code					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
G, GL, GT	S340				M340	
G120	solid-state					
GN	S340					
HK, HKN		R33				
K, KB	S38/S340	R38/R340		ECS§	M340	
KN	S340		340			
MMS/MMT, MNS/MNT, TES, TLS, ZCS	S340+	E33+	S340+‡	E33+‡	M340+	M340+‡
ZCB	S340+		S340+‡		M340+	M340+‡

‡ With programmed transition function enabled. § Elevator Control Switch

Voltage Code (2 digits)

250 volt maximum	600 volt maximum	600 volt maximum
21 110 volt, 50 Hz	60 600 volt, 60 Hz	67 190 volt, 50 Hz
22 120 volt, 60 Hz	61 110 volt, 50 Hz	68 208 volt, 60 Hz
23 220 volt, 50 Hz	62 120 volt, 60 Hz	69 440 volt, 60 Hz
24 240 volt, 60 Hz	63 220 volt, 50 Hz	70 400 volt, 50 Hz
27 190 volt, 50 Hz	64 240 volt, 60 Hz	71 380 volt, 50 Hz
28 208 volt, 60 Hz	65 550 volt, 60 Hz	72 380 volt, 60 Hz
	66 480 volt, 60 Hz	73 416 volt, 50 Hz

NOTE: GL and GT models are available only in 600-volt configurations.

Number of Poles (1 digit)

2 2 pole, 1 phase
3 3 pole, 3 phase
4 3 pole, 1 phase
5 3 pole, 3 phase with overlapping switched neutral contacts
6 4 pole, 3 phase fully rated

Number of Wires (1 digit)

2 2 wire
3 3 wire
4 4 wire

Enclosures (1 digit)

0 Open
1 NEMA type 1
2 NEMA type 12
3 NEMA type 3R
4 NEMA type 1 CSA
5 Open CSA

Amperes (2-4 digits)

Current rating of the switch in amperes. Valid range is 30-4000.

Figure 5 Transfer Switch Model Designation for Units Built During or After 1985