Bob's Service Tip: Locking Connector Work-around

Fasteners used to lock connectors to electrical connectors which provide power and CAN bus data wires can be either be twist, integrated lever lock or have a removable locking tab. The latter often supply power, ground and CAN bus connections. To remove the connector, push the small locking tab upward with a small flat blade, upon release may fly upward never to be seen again, misplaced or broken.

As you can imagine, the rear differential is shocked and bounced when driven over rough road and the larger 8 pin power/CAN bus connector can be shaken loose and a yellow trouble lamp illuminating on the dash instrument cluster. The tabs are absolutely essential because the DCM, mounted to the Haldex, controls power to the rear wheels and is an essential component of the anti skid system.

I had such an experience fastening the two electrical connectors to the Rear Differential Electronic Module (DEM). I could only find one of the two tabs. To secure the connector, run a plastic cable tie through the connector tab slot and a hole drilled on the DEM's heat shield. Now, both the haldex pump motor and the power/CAN bus connectors are securely in place.



Bob lives in Cary, NC and is co-chairman of the Blue Ridge Chapter of VCOA. Contact him at rfsepe@gmail.com.