OPERATOR’S MANUAL

For Models: M753K and NL753K

Marine Generators | Marine Diesel Engines | Land-Based Generators

NORTHERN LIGHTS

LUGGER
Diesel engine exhaust and some of its constituents are known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm.
Read this operator's manual thoroughly before starting to operate your equipment.
This manual contains information you will need to run and service your new unit.

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Proprietary Information

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O753K 10/09
Servicing of marine engines and generator sets presents unique problems. In many cases boats cannot be moved to a repair facility. Marine engines cannot be compared to the servicing of automobiles, trucks or even farm equipment. Failures often occur in remote areas far from competent assistance. Marine engines are taxed far more severely than auto or truck engines; therefore, maintenance schedules must be adhered to more strictly.

Failures begin with minor problems that are overlooked and become amplified when not corrected during routine maintenance.

As operator, it is your obligation to learn about your equipment and its proper maintenance. This is not a comprehensive technical service manual. Nor will it make the reader into an expert mechanic. Its aim is to aid you in maintaining your unit properly.

**MODELS INCLUDED**

This manual covers the operating instructions for:

- M753K marine generator sets, and
- NL753K industrial generator sets.

**Model Numbers**

Model numbers give the unit’s application, block model, aspiration, and RPM:

\[
\text{M / NL} + \text{753} + \text{K}
\]

- **M** - Northern Lights marine generator set
- **NL** - Northern Lights industrial generator set
- **753**
  - Bore: 75 mm
  - Cylinders: 3
- **K**
  - Additional letter designates series within model number

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{M753K} & = \text{Northern Lights marine diesel generator set with a 753 engine, PXK generator end, and an AVR.} \\
\text{NL753K} & = \text{Northern Lights industrial generator set with a 753 engine, PXK generator end, and an AVR.}
\end{align*}
\]

**Serial Numbers**

Your set has three serial numbers: ① an engine number stamped on the block, ② a generator plate, and ③ a generator set plate.

Use the serial number on the generator set plate when ordering parts or in correspondence. The generator set plate is found on the service side of the generator and resembles the drawing in Figure 1.

*Figure 1: Generator set serial number plate.*
A warranty registration certificate is supplied with your set. It entitles the original purchaser of our equipment to a warranty covering material or assembly faults. The extent of coverage is described in the Limited Warranty Statement. We recommend that you study the statement carefully.

**NOTE:** If the warranty is to apply, the servicing instructions outlined in this manual must be followed. If further information is needed, please contact an authorized dealer or the factory.

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**Safety Rules**

*A caution*:* Accident reports show that careless use of engines causes a high percentage of accidents. You can avoid accidents by observing these safety rules. Study these rules carefully and enforce them on the job.*

- Never leave engine without proper security.
- Turn the coolant tank cap slowly to relieve pressure before removing. Add coolant only when the engine is stopped and cool.
- Mount a fire extinguisher near engine.
- Always disconnect the battery ground strap before making adjustments.
- Operate engines in properly ventilated areas.
- Keep trash and other objects away from engine.
- Escaping fluids under pressure can penetrate your skin. Use a piece of cardboard or wood, not your hands, to search for leaks.
- Avoid wearing loose clothing without a belt when working around engines.
- Do not oil or grease engine while it is running.
- Use caution in handling fuel. Never refuel a hot or running engine. Do not smoke while filling fuel tank or servicing fuel system.
- Keep your hands, feet, hair and clothing away from power-driven parts.
- Check for any loose electrical connections or faulty wiring.
- Engines should be operated only by knowledgeable, qualified personnel.
- Look completely around engine to make sure that everything is clear before starting.
- Do not operate an engine that isn't in proper working order. If an unsafe operating condition is noted, tag the set and control panel so others will also know about the problem.
- Provide first aid kits.

---

**CAUTION:** This symbol is used throughout this book to alert you to possible danger areas. Please take special notice of these sections.
Marine Generator Component Locations

1. Generator Control Box
2. Air Filter
3. Fuel Filter
4. Fuel Lift Pump
5. Crankcase Vent
6. Lube Oil Fill Top
7. Coolant Fill
8. Fuel Injector
9. Stop Solenoid
10. Injection Pump
11. Lube Oil Fill Side
12. Seawater Pump
13. Lube Oil Drain
14. Base Frame
15. Block Drain
16. Fuel Inlet and Return
17. Lube Oil Dipstick
18. Lube Oil Filter
19. Control Panel Plug-In
20. Generator Set Plate
21. AC Circuit Breaker for AVR
22. DC Circuit Breaker
23. Expansion Tank
24. Wet Exhaust Elbow
25. Vibration Mount
26. Starter
27. DC Alternator
28. Heat Exchanger End Cap

Figure 2: M753k Service Side with PX-308K generator end.

Figure 3: M753k Non-Service Side with PX-308K generator end.
Industrial Generator Component Locations

1. DC Alternator
2. Exhaust Outlet
3. Air Filter
4. Starter
5. DC Circuit Breaker
6. Generator Junction Box
7. Generator Set S/N Plate
8. Generator
9. Lube Oil Drain
10. Series 1B Control Panel
11. Engine Hour Meter
12. Secondary Fuel Filter
13. Crankcase Vent
14. Lube Oil Fill
15. Coolant Fill
16. Injection Pump
17. Fuel Inlet and Return
18. Oil Filter & Dipstick
19. Fuel Lift Pump
20. Block Water Drain
21. Primary Fuel Filter (Optional)

Figure 4: NL753 with SAW generator.

Figure 5-A: PX-308K generator as used on NL753K.

Figure 5-B: NL753 with BCI generator.
1. **SHUTDOWN BYPASS-PREHEAT SWITCH**
   
   There are two functions built into this switch: preheating the engine and bypassing the engine safety shutdown circuit, enabling a quicker start. Hold the switch in the ON position for approximately 10 to 20 seconds before starting a cold engine. Holding the switch ON for too long can burn out the glow plugs. **NOTE**: Three position Engine Control switches must be in the RUN position during preheating. Preheat switch must be held in ON position during starting.

2. **ENGINE CONTROL SWITCH**
   
   To start the engine, hold this switch in the START position until the engine is running. **NOTE**: Excessive cranking of marine sets equipped with water lift muffler systems can cause engine damage. See page 8. After the engine starts, release the switch and it will return to RUN position. To stop the engine, hold the switch in the STOP position. **NOTE**: The rocker switch is used on Series 1 panels only, and has a light that glows when the set is running.

3. **HOUR METER**
   
   Keeps track of engine running time.

4. **OIL PRESSURE GAUGE**
   
   Shows the oil pressure in the engine lubricating system.

5. **WATER TEMPERATURE GAUGE**
   
   Registers the temperature of the cooling water.

6. **D.C. VOLTMETER OR AMMETER**
   
   When the engine is stopped, the voltmeter indicates the condition of the battery. When the engine is running, the voltmeter indicates the voltage output of the alternator.

   For Series 4 Control Panels Only:

7. **A.C. VOLTMETER**
   
   Shows the generator output voltage.

8. **FREQUENCY METER (Hertz)**
   
   The frequency meter indicates engine speed: 1200 or 1800 RPM (60 Hz), or 1500 RPM (50 Hz).

9. **AMMETER SELECTOR SWITCH**
   
   Used to check each phase for load condition. **NOTE**: Always leave this switch in the ON position while the unit is running.

10. **A.C. AMMETER**
    
    Shows the generator load on each phase. The phase is selected with the Ammeter Selector switch (Item 9).
1. **SHUTDOWN BYPASS SWITCH**

   Manual Start Panels (S-7.1 and S-7.3)
   
   Hold the switch in the START position until the engine is running.

   **NOTE:** Excessive cranking may cause engine damage.
   
   After the engine starts, release the switch and it will return to the RUN position. To stop the engine, hold the switch in the STOP position.

   Auto Start Panels (S-7.0, S-7.2, S-7.4, S-7.5, and S-7.6)
   
   When the switch is placed in the AUTO START position, the unit will automatically start when there is a drop in utility power.

2. **OIL PRESSURE GAUGE**

   Shows the oil pressure in the engine lubricating system.

3. **HOUR METER**

   Keeps track of engine running time.

4. **ENGINE TEMPERATURE GAUGE**

   Registers the temperature of the coolant.

5. **D.C. VOLTMETER**

   When the engine is running, the voltmeter indicates the voltage output of the alternator.

6. **STATUS INDICATOR PANEL**

   Engine monitoring alarms and lamps for monitoring engine functions.

7. **ALARM LAMP TEST AND RESET BUTTON**

   Press UP to test the indicator lights and press DOWN to reset the alarm.

8. **A.C. VOLTAGE ADJUSTMENT RHEOSTAT**

   Voltage has been set at the factory and should only be adjusted by factory-trained personnel.

9. **AMMETER SELECTOR SWITCH**

   Used to check each phase for load condition.

   **NOTE:** Always leave this switch in the ON position while the unit is running.

10. **FREQUENCY METER (HERTZ)**

    The frequency meter indicates alternator current frequency: 60 Hz (1200 or 1800 RPM), or 50 Hz (1500 RPM).

11. **A.C. VOLTMETER**

    Shows the generator output voltage.

12. **A.C. AMMETER**

    Shows the generator load on each phase. The phase is selected with the Ammeter Selector switch.
BREAK-IN PERIOD

1. The first 100 hours on a new or reconditioned engine are critical to its life and performance.
2. Constantly check the engine temperature and oil pressure gauges (sets with Series 3 or 4 panels).
3. Oil consumption is greater during break-in as piston rings take time to seat.
4. Break-In Oil Changes: Change engine oil and filter at 50 hours. Change oil and filter again at 100 hours (consult Lubricants section for oil recommendation).
5. Retighten head bolts at 50 hours (see page 13).

Operating Instructions:
Maintain at least a 75% load on your generator set for the first 100 hours. If this is not possible, maintain no less than a 50% load to ensure proper seating of the piston rings. Vary the load to help seat the rings.

BEFORE STARTING

1. Check the water level by removing the pressure cap from the expansion tank or radiator. In order to give the cooling water an opportunity to expand, the level should be about 1 in. (2.5 cm) below the filler cap sealing surface when the engine is cold.

CAUTION: Use protective clothing and open the filler cap carefully when the engine is warm to prevent burns.

2. Check the oil level in the crankcase with the dipstick. The oil level must be in the waffled area on the stick. Never allow the level to go below this area. Always add the same viscosity of oil as is already in the crankcase.
3. Check the fuel tank level and open any fuel valves.
4. Marine Sets: close the sea-cock, check and clean the sea strainer and reopen the sea-cock.
5. Marine Sets: place the battery switch in the ON position.
6. NOTE: The battery switch must always be kept ON while the engine is running. If the switch is turned OFF while the engine is running, the battery charging regulator could be ruined.

STARTING

1. Hold the Shutdown Bypass-Preheat switch in the ON position for 10 to 20 seconds before starting a cold engine. Holding the switch too long can burn out the glow plugs. This step is not necessary if the engine is already warm.
2. While holding the Shutdown Bypass-Preheat switch in the ON position, push the Engine Control switch to the START position.
3. As soon as the engine starts, release both switches. Do not crank the starter for more than 20 seconds consecutively. If the engine fails to start with the first attempt, be sure that it has stopped completely before re-engaging.
6. NOTE: Excessive cranking of the starter on Marine sets equipped with a water lift muffler can cause engine damage. If the engine does not start after three 20-second cranks, remove the impeller from the raw water pump. This will prevent the muffler from filling with water and backfilling the exhaust line and engine. Once the engine starts, shut it off immediately and re-install the impeller. Re-start the engine and check the exhaust overboard outlet for gushes of water.

OPERATING

1. Units with Series 3 and Series 4 Control Panels: check gauges often. Oil pressure must be above 15 PSI. The D.C. voltmeter should read between 11 and 15 volts at 80°F (25°C) ambient temperature. The water temperature gauge on Marine sets must be below 200°F (94°C); on Industrial units, the water temperature gauge must be below 225°F (107°C). Check the A.C. voltage and frequency meters (Series 4 panel). If the gauges deviate from normal levels, shut down the generator set and investigate.
2. Let the unit run unloaded for a three to five minute warm-up period.
3. Add electrical load.

STOPPING

1. Remove electrical load from the generator set.
2. Move the Engine Control switch to the STOP position momentarily.
3. Marine Sets: shut off the seacock, fuel valve, and battery switch.
SHUTDOWNS AND ALARMS

1. Generator sets have shutdown systems to stop the engine in the event of high water temperature or low oil pressure.
   a. Other alarms and shutdowns are available as optional equipment.
   
   NOTE: Do not rely on your shutdown to the exclusion of careful gauge monitoring. Watching your gauges can prevent damage to the unit and dangerous power losses.

2. Do the following when your warning or shutdown system is activated:
   a. Check the temperature gauge.
      Marine sets: If above 205°F (96°C), shut off the engine immediately.
      Industrial sets: If above 230°F (110°C), shut off the engine immediately.
   b. Use the Trouble Shooting Guide on page 20 to isolate the cause of the overheat.
   c. CAUTION: Do not remove the water fill cap of an overheated engine. Escaping high temperature steam can cause severe burns. Allow the engine to cool and then remove the cap slowly using protective clothing.
   d. Make repairs. Restart your Marine set after the temperature gauge registers below 200°F (94°C); restart your Industrial set after the temperature gauge registers below 225°F (107°C).
   e. Watch the temperature gauge regularly and turn off the unit if the temperature rises above 205°F (96°C) on Marine units; 230°F (110°C) on Industrial sets. Repeat troubleshooting.

3. If shutdown is activated and the temperature gauge shows temperature within normal temperature range:
   a. Check the engine crankcase oil level.
   b. If the oil level is low, fill with recommended lubricating oil and restart. Watch the oil pressure gauge carefully and shut off the engine if it does not show a normal reading (20-60 PSI) after a few seconds of operation.
   c. If the oil level is normal, DO NOT restart the engine. Call your dealer for assistance.

SPARE PARTS

1. ADE recommends that you keep the following spare parts on hand for field service. The parts are available from your local Northern Lights dealer. Marine models have optional “On-Board-Kits,” a handy box that contains the most common parts you will need.

2. All owners should have the following:
   a. Primary and secondary fuel filter elements
   b. Oil filters
   c. Air filter (industrial units only)
   d. Alternator belt
   e. Thermostat and gaskets
   f. Seawater pump impeller & gaskets (marine only)
   g. Glow plug
   h. Injector and washer

3. If your set is operating a long distance from a servicing dealer, add the following:
   a. Complete set of injectors
   b. Copper washers for injector change
   c. Complete set of glow plugs
   d. Fuel lift pump
Servicing Schedule Chart

The Servicing Schedule Chart below shows the service schedule required for proper maintenance of your generator set. More detailed coverage of each Service Point (SP) is listed on the page noted in the ‘page’ column.

### DAILY:
- **SP1** Check oil level in engine
- **SP5** Check V-belt tension
- **SP7** Check primary fuel filter
- **SP13** Check coolant level
- **SP18** Check electrolyte in batteries

### AFTER FIRST 50 HOURS:
- **SP2/3** Change engine oil and filter
- **SP6** Adjust valves

### AFTER FIRST 100 HOURS:
- **SP2/3** Change engine oil and filter

### EVERY 250 HOURS:
- **SP2/3** Change engine oil and filter
- **SP4** Check air cleaner
- **SP16** Check and clean radiator (Industrial only)
- **SP19** Check state of charge of batteries

### EVERY 500 HOURS:
- **SP8** Change primary fuel filter element
- **SP9** Change secondary fuel filter
- **SP20** Inspect condition of exhaust elbow

### EVERY 1000 HOURS:
- **SP4** Change air cleaner element
- **SP6** Check valve clearances
- **SP11** Check injectors
- **SP17** Change impeller (Marine only)

### EVERY 2500 HOURS:
- **SP12** Check fuel injection pump
- **SP14** Check and flush cooling system
- **SP15** Check and clean heat exchanger (Marine only)

### SERVICE POINT | PAGE | OPERATION | DAILY | 50 Hours | 250 Hours | 500 Hours | 1000 Hours | 2500 Hours
---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---
**SP1** | 8 & 12 | Check oil level | | | | | | |
**SP2** | 12 | Change engine oil | 1) 5) | • | • | | | |
**SP3** | 12 | Change lube oil filters | 1) 5) | • | • | | | |
**SP4** | 13 | Check air cleaner, change element @1000 hrs. | 1) 4) | • | | | | |
**SP5** | 13 | Check V-belt tension | 1) 4) | • | | | | |
**SP6** | 13 | Check valve clearances | 1) 2) | | | | | |
**SP7** | 14 | Check primary filter (Racor) | 2) 3) | • | | | | |
**SP8** | 14 | Change primary fuel filter element (Racor) | 2) 3) | | | | | |
**SP9** | 14 | Change secondary fuel filter | 1) 3) | | | | | |
**SP10** | 15 | Bleed the fuel system | 3) | | | | | |
**SP11** | 17 | Check injectors | 1) 3) | | | | | |
**SP12** | 17 | Check fuel injection pump | | | | | | |
**SP13** | 8 & 17 | Check cooling water level | | | | | | |
**SP14** | 18 | Check and flush cooling system | | | | | | |
**SP15** | 18 | Check and clean heat exchanger (Marine) | | | | | | |
**SP16** | 18 | Check and clean radiator fins (Industrial) | | | | | | |
**SP17** | 18 | Change impeller in raw water pump (Marine) | 1) 3) | | | | | |
**SP20** | | Inspect condition of exhaust elbow | | | | | | |
**SP18** | 19 | Check electrolyte level in batteries | 1) 4) | • | | | | |
**SP19** | 19 | Check condition of batteries with hydrometer | 1) 4) | • | | | | |
**SP20** | 19 | Winterizing or out-of-service | 3) | | | | | |

1) Perform all maintenance once a year even if hour level has not been reached.
2) Consult manufacturer’s maintenance schedule, note on chart.
3) Whenever necessary.
4) More often if necessary.
5) After first 50 hours, then after 100 hours, and then every 250 hours.
LUBRICATION - GENERAL

1. Use only clean, high quality lubricants stored in clean containers in a protected area.
2. These lubricants are acceptable:
   a. API Service CC/CD/CE single viscosity oils.
   b. API Service CC/CD/SF multi-viscosity oils.
3. Use the proper weight oil for your average operation temperature.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Air Temperature</th>
<th>Single Viscosity</th>
<th>Multi-Viscosity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Above 32°F (0°C)</td>
<td>SAE 30W</td>
<td>SAE 15-40W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-10 to 32°F (-23 to 0°C)</td>
<td>SAE 10W</td>
<td>SAE 10-30W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below -10°F (-23°C)</td>
<td>SAE 5W</td>
<td>SAE 5-20W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Figure 8: Lube Oils

4. Some increase in oil consumption may be expected when SAE 5W and SAE 5-20W oils are used. Check oil level frequently.
5. Never put additives or flushing oil in crankcase.

SP1. CHECKING OIL LEVEL

1. Check the oil level in the crankcase with the dipstick. The oil level must be in the waffled area on the stick. Never allow the level to go below this area. Follow the lubrication recommendations above.

SP2. OIL CHANGES

1. The set is delivered with special break-in oil. Change the engine oil and oil filter after 50 hours of operation. Use Service CC 30 weight oil during the first 100 hours.
2. Change the oil and filter again at 100 hours using the oil recommended in Figure 8. After this, change oil and filter every 250 hours.
3. During intermittent cold weather operation, change oil every 100 hours or six weeks, whichever comes first.
4. Change oil at any seasonal change in temperature when a new viscosity of oil is required.
5. Change oil when engine is warm.
6. Dispose of waste oil in an approved manner.
7. Never use a flushing oil.
8. Loosen the clamp on the oil change tube. Remove cap. Drain oil. Replace the cap and tube.
9. Refill engine with recommended oil.
10. Engine capacity with new oil filter is:
    753K – 3.7 quarts (3.5 liters)

SP3. CHANGING LUBE OIL FILTER

1. Change the lube oil filter every 250 hours.
2. Use a filter wrench to remove old filter. Dispose of filter in approved manner.
3. Make sure the gasket from the old filter is removed and discarded. Clean mount face.
4. Spread a thin film of engine oil on the rubber gasket on the new filter and screw it on nipple until gasket meets the sealing surface.
5. Using hands only – no wrench – tighten filter one-half turn farther. Overtightening can do damage to filter housing.
6. Fill engine with recommended oil. Start engine and check for leakage. Stop engine, wait 3 minutes, and check oil level. Add additional oil if necessary.
7. Oil filter part numbers are:
   753K – #140516190
SP4. AIR CLEANER

1. Inspect air cleaner every 250 hours. In dusty conditions, check more often.
2. Marine sets: if dirty, wash element in soapy water. Rinse and dry thoroughly before re-installing. Replace if necessary. Part numbers are:
   M753K – #24-22003
3. Industrial sets: the element cannot be cleaned. Replace it when necessary. Part numbers are:
   NL753K – #314531123
4. **NOTE:** Make absolutely sure no impurities enter the engine while changing the element. Do NOT run the engine with the air cleaner removed.

SP5. V-BELTS

1. Check the tension and wear on the V-belt daily.
2. Use your thumb to press on the belt at the midpoint between the crankshaft and alternator pulleys. The tension is correct if the belt can be depressed about 3/16 in. (5 mm).

RETIGHTENING CYLINDER HEAD BOLTS

1. Retighten the head bolts after the first 50 hours.
2. Tighten bolts when the engine is cold.
3. Loosen the nuts and remove rocker arm cover.
4. Tighten head bolts with a torque wrench in the order shown in figures below. Tighten bolts evenly in 2 or 3 passes, ending at the specified torque in final pass.
   a. 753K: 33 - 36 ft/lbs (4.5 - 5 kg/m)

SP6. VALVE CLEARANCES

1. Adjust valve clearance after first 50 hours of operation and every 1000 hours thereafter.
2. Valve adjustments should be done after the cylinder head bolts have been re-tightened. Engine should be cold and NOT running.
3. Watch the valves while turning the engine over by hand. Turn until the inlet valve starts to open and the exhaust valve starts to close (the valves are rocking). Then turn the crankshaft one more full turn and adjust the clearance on both valves for this cylinder.
4. Loosen the lock nut and adjust the clearance between the rocker arm and valve guide of both the intake and exhaust valves with the adjustment screw (Figure 10). Clearance on both intake and exhaust valves should be 0.008 in. (0.2 mm).
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 for each cylinder. Each set of valves must be adjusted individually.
6. Replace the rocker arm cover. Tighten cover nuts to 5 - 8 ft/lbs (0.8 - 2.3 kg/m).
FUELS - GENERAL

1. Use only clean, high quality fuels of the following specifications, as defined by ASTM designation D975 for diesel fuels:
   a. Use grade no. 2 diesel at ambient temperatures above freezing 32°F (0°C).
   b. Use grade no. 1 at ambient temperatures below freezing and for all temperatures at an altitude of above 5,500 ft. (1500 meters).
2. Use fuel having less that 1% sulphur (preferably less that 0.5%).
3. The cetane number should be a minimum of 45.
4. DO NOT use these unsuitable grades of fuel:
   a. Domestic heating oils, all types.
   b. Class B engine.
   c. Class D domestic fuels.
   d. Class E, F, G or H industrial or marine fuels.
   e. ASTM-D975-60T No. 4-D and higher number fuels.
5. Storing fuel:
   a. Keep dirt, scale, water, and other foreign matter out of fuel.
   b. Avoid storing fuel for long periods of time.
   c. Fill the fuel tank at the end of each day’s operation. This will reduce condensation.

SP7-9. FUEL FILTERS

1. Your generator set should have a primary fuel filter installed. We recommend the Racor brand of fuel filter-water separators.
   a. Check the primary fuel filter daily as recommended by the filter manufacturer. Empty the collection bowl as necessary.
   b. Change the element as often as necessary or every 500 hours.
   c. If the bowl fills with water, change the primary and secondary element immediately.
2. Change secondary fuel filter every 500 hours.
   a. Remove the spin-on filter by turning it counterclockwise with a filter wrench. Fill the new cartridge with fuel and install it after applying engine oil to gasket surface. Screw on until the gasket surface comes into contact with sealing surface of filter base. Then, tighten it two-thirds of a turn by hand. Do not overtighten.
   b. Fuel filter part numbers are:
      753K – #130336020
SP10. BLEEDING THE FUEL SYSTEM

**CAUTION:** Escaping diesel fuel under pressure can penetrate skin causing serious personal injury. Before disconnecting lines be sure to relieve all pressure. Before applying pressure, be sure all connections are tight and lines, pipes and hoses aren’t damaged. Fuel escaping from a very small hole can be almost invisible. Use a piece of cardboard or wood, rather than hands, to search for suspected leaks. If injured by escaping fuel, see a doctor at once. Serious infection or reaction can develop if proper medical treatment isn’t administered immediately.

1. The fuel system is self-bleeding. However, any system may need manual bleeding when:
   a. A new fuel filter is installed;
   b. The engine has run out of fuel;
   c. The fuel lines, injection pump or any other fuel system component has been removed and installed.
2. Loosen bleed bolt “A” (Figure 11) on top of the filter. Pump hand primer “B” on fuel lift pump until pure fuel (no bubbles) escapes from bleed bolt “A”. Tighten bleed screw “A”.
3. Loosen bleed screw “C”. Pump hand primer “B” until pure fuel (no bubbles) escapes. Then tighten bleed screw “C”.
4. If the engine does not start after the above bleeding process, loosen a fuel line at the injector while cranking the engine with the starter motor until pure fuel escapes. Then tighten the connection. Do each line one-at-a-time.
5. After the engine has started, use a piece of cardboard to look for fuel leaks.

**Figure 11-A:** M753K Fuel System.

**Figure 11-B:** NL753K Fuel System.
Figure 12: Remove delivery line flare nuts.

Figure 13: Remove delivery lines.

Figure 14: Remove return line nuts.

Figure 15: Remove return line.

Figure 16: Unscrew injector.

Figure 17: Remove and replace copper sealing washer.

Figure 18: Reinstall injector. Torque to proper tightness.
SP11. INJECTOR SERVICE

1. Injectors should be checked every 1000 hours. Check should be made by a Northern Lights dealer or local injection repair station.

   CAUTION: Escaping diesel fuel under pressure can have sufficient force to penetrate the skin causing serious personal injury. If injured by escaping diesel fuel, see a doctor at once.

2. Injector removal:
   a. Clean loose dirt from around the injectors and the fuel lines.
   b. Relieve high pressure in the fuel lines by loosening the delivery line flare nuts at each injector (Figure 12).
   c. Remove delivery lines by disconnecting from injectors and injection pump (Figure 13). Remove all lines as an assembly; do not remove the spacers. Cover the ends of the lines, the injector inlets and injection pump outlets to keep dirt out.
   d. Remove the return line retaining bolts (Figure 14). Remove the return line (Figure 15).
   e. Unscrew and remove the injectors (Figure 16).
      NOTE: Do not use pry bars to remove injectors from cylinder head.
   f. After removing the injectors, discard the copper sealing washers from the injector hole in the head (Figure 17). Cover holes to prevent dirt and debris from entering the cylinders.

3. Injector installation:
   a. Install a new copper sealing washer in each injector hole (Figure 17).
   b. Screw in injector and tighten to 43 or 50 ft/lbs (6 to 7 kgm) (Figure 18).
      NOTE: Overtightening can damage injector.
   c. Install return line using new copper sealing above and below each connection. Tighten return line retaining bolts to 22 - 30 ft/lbs.
   d. Install delivery lines. Leave loose at injectors for bleeding.
   e. Pump hand level on fuel pump to fill lines. Tighten lines at injectors. Start engine and check for leaks using a piece of paper or cardboard. DO NOT use hand to check for leaks.

SP12. INJECTION PUMP

1. Since operating conditions may vary considerably, it is difficult to give a definite interval for checking the injection pump. But as a rule, pump settings, maximum speed, idle speed and exhaust smoke should be checked after every 2500 hours of operation. Service of the fuel injection pump should only be done if checks indicate pump malfunction.

2. Black smoke can be an indication of pump malfunction. Before servicing the pump, check other possible causes:
   a. Check cleanliness of air filter.
   b. Check valve clearances.
   c. Clean and check injectors.

3. Any repair which involves disassembly of the injection pump must be carried out by specially trained mechanics with the proper tools and test equipment.
   NOTE: All warranties on the engine become null and void if the injection pump seals are broken by unauthorized persons.

COOLING SYSTEM - GENERAL

NOTE: Marine sets – be sure to close the sea-cock before working on the engine cooling system.

   CAUTION: The cooling water in the engine reaches extremely high temperatures. You must use extreme caution when working on hot engines to avoid burns. Allow the engine to cool before working on the cooling system. Open the filler cap carefully, using protective clothing when the engine is warm.

SP13. CHECK THE COOLANT LEVEL

1. Check the coolant level each day before starting the engine. Check the water level by removing the pressure cap from the expansion tank or radiator. In order to give the cooling water an opportunity to expand, the level should be about 1 in. (2.5 cm) below the filler cap sealing surface when the engine is cold.

2. The pressure valve in the filler cap releases when the pressure is approximately 7 PSI (0.5 bar). Use a cap pressure tester to check cap if you suspect it is faulty.
**Servicing**

**SP14. COOLING SYSTEM FLUSHING**

1. Flush the cooling system every 2500 hours or every 12 months, whichever comes first.
2. Marine sets:
   a. Remove expansion tank cap and drain engine block.
   b. Open block drain cock.
      Model 753x: Remove plug in lower left side of heat exchanger tank.
   c. Pour clean water into expansion tank until water coming from drains is free of discoloration and sediment. Let water drain completely. Close drains and refill with recommended mixture.
3. Industrial sets:
   Remove radiator cap and open drain cocks on radiator and engine block. Pour clean water into radiator until water coming from radiator is clear of discoloration. Close the radiator drain and continue flushing until water from engine drain is clear. Open all drain cocks and drain completely. Close drain cock and refill with recommended coolant mixture. Clean fins on radiator.
2. Coolant Specifications (marine and industrial):
   Use 50% water / 50% ethylene glycol antifreeze mix. Antifreeze mixture is recommended as a good year-round coolant.
3. Check hoses and connections and repair any leakage.

**SP15. HEAT EXCHANGER (Marine)**

1. Clean the heat exchanger core once a year or after 2500 hours of operation.
2. Drain expansion tank and heat exchanger.
3. Remove heat exchanger end covers and remove core.
4. Clean the inside of exchanger core tubes using a metal rod. Flush, inspect and clean again if necessary.
5. Reassemble. Fill the cooling system, start the engine and check for leaks.

**SP16. CLEAN RADIATOR (Industrial)**

1. Remove debris from radiator fins daily.
2. In very dusty applications, clean the radiator with compressed air or steam cleaner every 100 hours. Clean in the reverse direction of the airflow.

**SP17. RAW WATER PUMP (Marine)**

1. Change the seawater pump impeller every 1000 hours, or as needed.
2. Remove the pump end cover. Pry out the impeller using needle-nose pliers or two screwdrivers. Be sure you remove all pieces of failed impeller.
   **NOTE:** *Place some kind of protection under the screwdrivers in order not to damage the pump housing.*
3. Clean the inside of the housing.
4. Press in the new impeller and place the sealing washers in the outer end of the impeller center if this has not already been done.
5. Replace the cover using a new gasket.
   **NOTE:** *Make sure that there is always an extra impeller and cover gasket in reserve on board.*

**GENERATOR ENDS**

The maintenance and operation recommendations for the generator end are in a separate Owner’s Manual. If you do not have one of these manuals, contact your local Northern Lights dealer.

**ELECTRICAL SYSTEM - GENERAL**

1. Never switch battery switch off or break the circuit between the alternator and batteries while the engine is running. Regulator damage can result.
2. Do NOT reverse the polarity of battery cables when installing the battery.
3. When welding on the unit, disconnect the regulator and battery. Isolate the leads.
4. Disconnect the battery cables when servicing the D.C. alternator.
5. Never test with a screwdriver, etc., against any terminal to see if it emits sparks.
6. Do not polarize the alternator or regulator.
7. A D.C. circuit breaker protects your control panel and wiring harness. It is located in the side of the generator junction box.
GLOW PLUGS

1. Each cylinder is supplied with a glow plug which serves to heat the combustion chamber.
2. To check the glow plugs, loosen the current carrying flat wire between the plus-poles of the glow plugs (Figure 19). Connect a D.C. test bulb between the plus-pole of the battery and the plus-pole of the glow plug. If the bulb lights up, the glow plug is functioning properly.
3. Check all glow plugs and replace any faulty ones.

Figure 19: Glow plugs.

BOOSTER BATTERIES

CAUTION: Battery gas can explode. Keep all flames and sparks away from batteries.

1. Before changing or using booster batteries, check battery electrolyte level. Add distilled water if necessary.
2. Booster and main batteries must have the same voltage rating.
3. First, connect positive (+) terminal of booster battery to positive (+) terminal of main battery. Then, connect negative (-) terminal of booster battery to ground on the engine block (see Figure 20).
4. Remove booster battery after starting engine.
5. Sealed batteries: See manufacturer charging and booster instructions.

Figure 20: Battery connections.

SP 18-19. BATTERY CARE

1. Check electrolyte level daily. Add distilled water to manufacturer’s recommended level.
2. Batteries, cables and cable terminals should be checked and cleaned every 100 hours. Clean corrosion with a water and baking soda solution. Flush with clean water. Tighten terminals and grease them to inhibit corrosion.
3. Check the battery condition with a hydrometer every 250 hours.

SP20. WINTERIZING / OUT-OF-SERVICE

1. Marine sets:
   a. Drain fresh water and seawater cooling systems completely. Remember to shut off seacocks before opening drain cocks.
   b. Drain water supply lines and wet exhaust line.
   c. Loosen the seawater pump cover and drain pump.
2. Industrial sets:
   a. Drain and flush the radiator and cooling system. Leave dry or refill with antifreeze-water mixture. If refilling, start the engine and run to circulate the antifreeze.
   b. Fill the fuel tank or add biocide as per manufacturer’s instructions.
   c. Seal the air cleaner inlet, exhaust opening, crankcase breather pipe, and fuel tank vent with plastic bags and tape.
   d. Store the set in a dry, protected place. If unit must be stored outside, be sure it is well protected with a cover.
3. Marine and Industrial sets:
   a. Change the crankcase oil and filter.
   b. Loosen the alternator belt.
   c. Disconnect and clean battery. Remove to warm storage place if possible.
   d. Clean outside of unit. Paint any scratched or chipped surfaces. Put corrosion preventative on all exposed metal surfaces.
# Troubleshooting

## DC Electrical System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROBLEM</th>
<th>POSSIBLE CAUSE</th>
<th>RECOMMENDATION(S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Battery Will Not Charge</strong></td>
<td>Loose or corroded connections</td>
<td>• Clean and tighten battery connections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sulfated or worn out batteries</td>
<td>• Check specific gravity of each battery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Check electrolyte level of each battery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Loose or defective alternator belt</td>
<td>• Adjust belt tension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Replace belt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starter Inoperative</strong></td>
<td>Check DC circuit breaker</td>
<td>• If the breaker is tripped, reset it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Loose or corroded connections</td>
<td>• Clean and tighten loose battery and harness plug connection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low battery output</td>
<td>• Check specific gravity of each battery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Check electrolyte level of each battery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Defective electrical system</td>
<td>• Repair or replace.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ground wire:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Starter Cranks Slowly</strong></td>
<td>Low battery output</td>
<td>• Battery is too small.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Battery cables are too small.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Check specific gravity of each battery</td>
<td>• Replace battery if necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Check electrolyte level of each battery</td>
<td>• If low, fill cells with distilled water.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crankcase oil too heavy</td>
<td>• Fill with oil of appropriate viscosity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Loose or corroded connections</td>
<td>• Clean and tighten loose connections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Entire Electrical System</strong></td>
<td>Check DC circuit breaker</td>
<td>• If breaker is tripped, reset it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Does Not Function</strong></td>
<td>Faulty connection</td>
<td>• Clean and tighten battery and harness plug connections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sulfated or worn out batteries</td>
<td>• Check specific gravity and electrolyte level of each battery.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you cannot correct problems with these procedures, see your **Northern Lights** dealer.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Troubleshooting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Engine</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Engine Hard to Start</strong> or Will Not Start</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Engine Runs Irregularly or Stalls Frequently</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lack of Engine Power</strong></td>
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</table>
## Troubleshooting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENGINE PROBLEM</th>
<th>POSSIBLE CAUSE</th>
<th>RECOMMENDATION(S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engine Overheats</td>
<td>Low coolant level</td>
<td>• Fill tank or radiator to proper level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Check hoses for loose connections and leaks.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Keel cooling tubes have been painted (marine)</td>
<td>• Remove paint from tubes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cooling system needs flushing</td>
<td>• Flush cooling system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Defective thermostat</td>
<td>• Remove and check thermostat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Defective temperature gauge</td>
<td>• Check water temperature with thermometer and replace gauge if necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water pump impeller worn/broken</td>
<td>• Check impeller and replace if necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engine Knocks</td>
<td>Insufficient oil</td>
<td>• Call your dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Injection pump out of time</td>
<td>• Call your dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Below normal engine temperature</td>
<td>• Check your thermostats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Engine overheating</td>
<td>• Check water temperature to see if temperature gauge is working properly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Fuel Consumption</td>
<td>Improper type of fuel</td>
<td>• Use correct fuel for temperature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clogged or dirty air cleaner</td>
<td>• Service air cleaner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Improper valve clearance</td>
<td>• See your dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Injection nozzles dirty</td>
<td>• See your dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Injection pump out of time</td>
<td>• See your dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Engine not at proper temperature</td>
<td>• Check your thermostats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Check water temperature with thermometer and replace gauge if necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below Normal</td>
<td>Thermostats not working properly</td>
<td>• Check thermostats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engine Temperature</td>
<td>Temperature gauge not working properly</td>
<td>• Check water temperature with thermometer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Oil Pressure</td>
<td>Low oil level</td>
<td>• Fill crankcase to proper level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Improper type of oil</td>
<td>• Drain and fill crankcase with correct oil.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Partially plugged oil filter</td>
<td>• Replace filter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Oil Consumption</td>
<td>Break-in period</td>
<td>• Oil consumption decreases after break in.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crankcase oil too light</td>
<td>• Use proper viscosity oil.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oil leaks</td>
<td>• Check for leaks in lines around gaskets and drain plug.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you cannot correct problems with these procedures, see your Northern Lights dealer.
## Troubleshooting

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<tr>
<th>ENGINE PROBLEM</th>
<th>POSSIBLE CAUSE</th>
<th>RECOMMENDATION(S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Engine Emits Black or Gray Exhaust Smoke</strong></td>
<td>Clogged or dirty air cleaner</td>
<td>• Service air cleaner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Defective muffler (back pressure too high)</td>
<td>• Have dealer check back pressure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Improper fuel</td>
<td>• Use correct fuel for temperature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Injection nozzles dirty</td>
<td>• See your dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Engine timing off</td>
<td>• See your dealer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Engine Emits White Smoke</strong></td>
<td>Improper fuel</td>
<td>• Use correct fuel for temperature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cold engine</td>
<td>• Warm up engine to normal operating temperature.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Defective thermostat</td>
<td>• Remove and check thermostat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Engine timing off</td>
<td>• See your dealer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you cannot correct problems with these procedures, see your Northern Lights dealer.
12 Volt DC Engine Wiring Diagram

For Northern Lights M753, NL753, M753G, NL753G, M753K, and NL753K with S1-B, S3-B, or S3-C control panel.

Drawing #C-2639

*AC Wiring Diagrams can be found in the corresponding Generator Manual.

Wiring diagrams are subject to change without notice.