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Resistors in place of Warning Lamps

There are many situations where a vehicle or other piece of equipment has an alternator but not a warning lamp fitted. In this situation it is possible to use a resistor in place of the warning lamp circuit to excite an alternator. This works best on older style alternators with a D+ circuit and exciter diodes.

An upgrade of an alternator from external regulator to internal can use one of these in place of the voltage regulator, a perfect example is early Valiant where an ANB257 can be used in place of the original external reg unit and the E37-1000 is simply put in place of the original voltage regulator which has Ignition and field connected to it. The field wire goes to D+ on the alternator and ignition supplies the resistor.

Where a very basic piece of equipment does not have an ignition switch, a dual terminal oil pressure switch can be used to supply 12v power to the resistor and then to the alternator D+.

