

# Can the Power Steering Pressure Switch Turn Off the A/C?

The power steering pressure switch communicates with the engine control unit (ECU) to regulate the vehicle's power steering system. When the power steering pressure switch detects excess load, the ECU makes adjustments to the power steering system to reduce stress on the motor.

In this case, what appeared to be an air conditioning issue on a 2008 Nissan Altima 3.5L, ended up being a direct result of excess stress on the power steering system after a wheel and tire upgrade. When the factory wheels were replaced with a larger style, the diameter of the new wheels increased the load going "side to side". Because this vehicle is designed with a shared serpentine belt for the A/C system and power steering pump, the A/C system appeared to be malfunctioning because the ECU was directed to reduce stress at the power steering pump. The solution to this problem is simply to replace the power steering pressure switch.



Power Steering Pressure Switch  
OE Part Number: 49763-6N20A