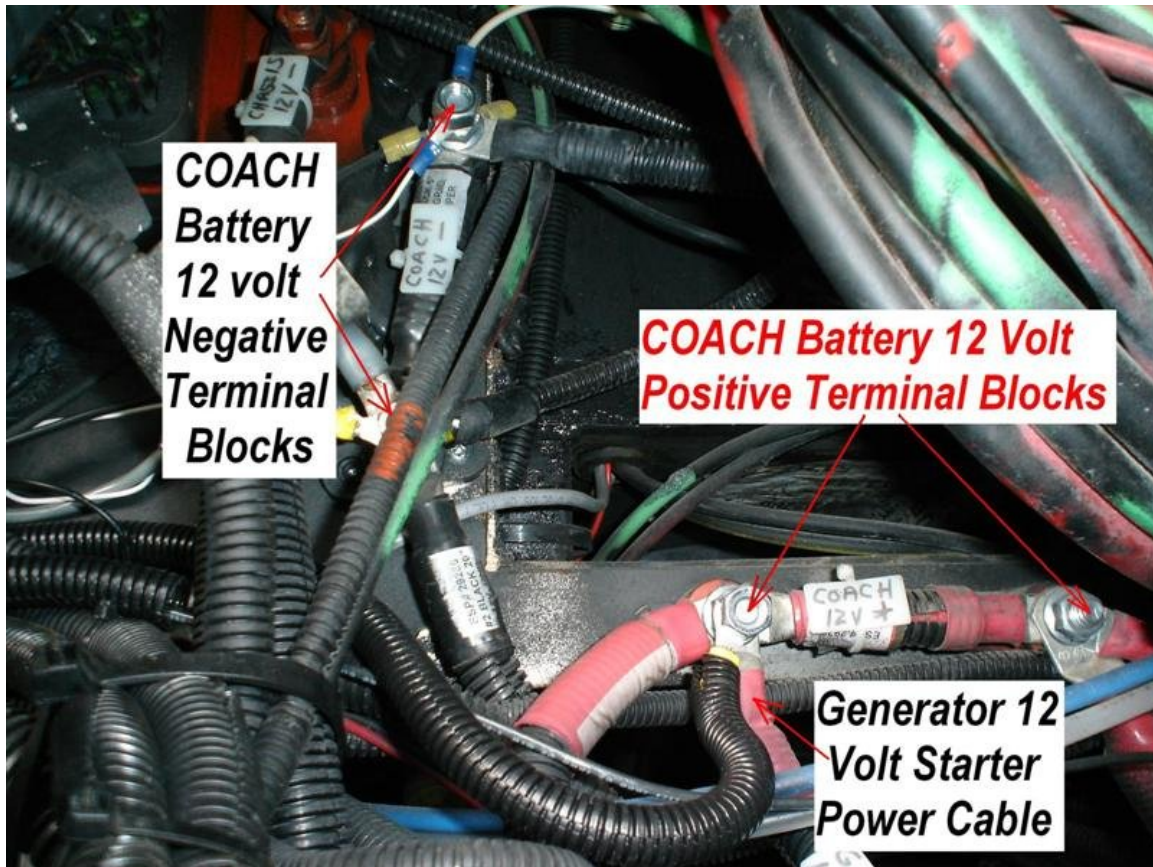


Tiffin's Generator 12 Volt Power

Tiffin has based on statements of other coach owners in some cases wired the generator 12 volt power to the coach/house batteries and in other cases wired the power to the chassis batteries. My 2007 Phaeton came wired with the generator 12 volt power connected to the Tiffin installed 12 volt coach/house batteries front firewall terminal blocks.

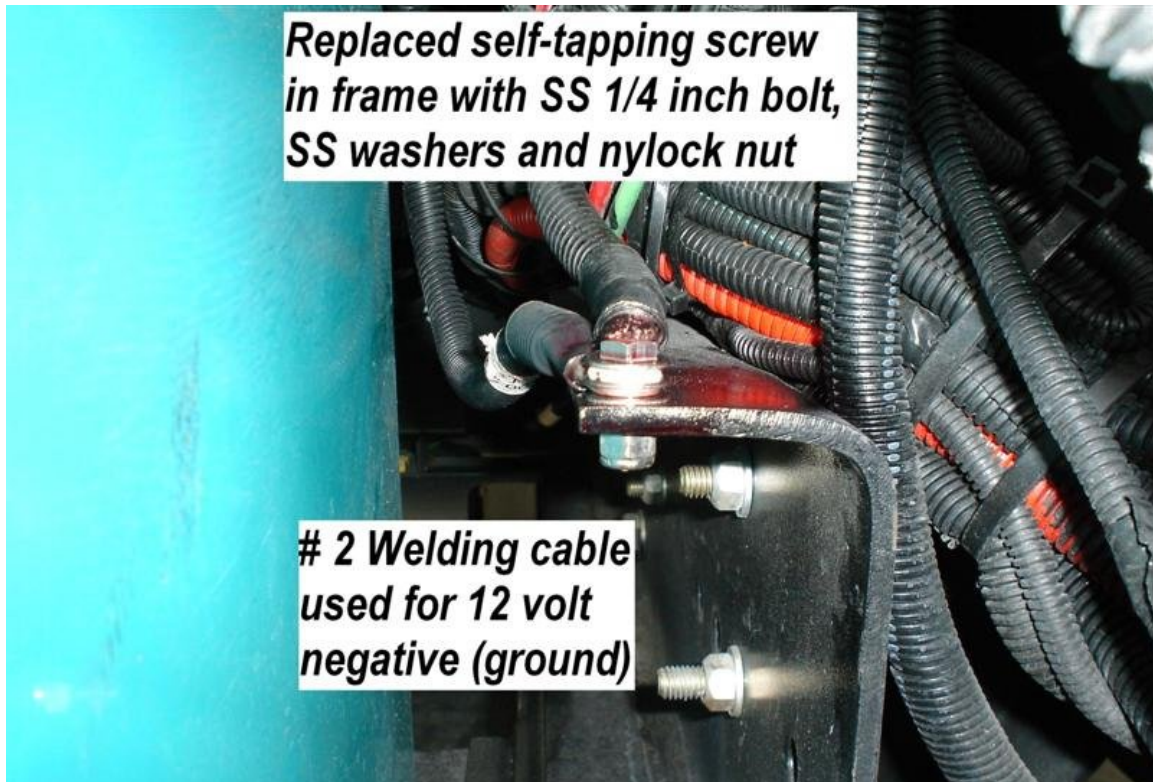
Tiffin has two sets of coach/house battery terminal blocks mounted on the coach firewall frame. Both sets of terminals are isolated from the coach frame. Below is a picture of my coaches Tiffin installed terminal blocks. The negative terminal blocks have a link between them and the positive terminal blocks have a link between them also.



Looking in the above picture you can see where I labeled the "Generator 12 Volt Starter Power Cable". If I desired I could relocate that cable to the chassis 12 volt battery power which is located on the coach firewall about two inches to the left and at the top of the picture.

Tiffin installs a self-tapping screw into the left chassis frame rail and uses the frame as part of the grounding system. Both positive and negative power cables to the generator are # 2 welding cable. One reason for the smaller power cabling is for the flexibility needed when opening and closing the generator sliding drawer.

I replaced the self-tapping screw after reading where in some cases this connection became loose which caused generator cranking problems due to low voltage. Replacing the screw is not easy as the frame steel is very hard and takes a sharp drill bit or a lot of filing to slightly enlarge the hole in the frame for 1/4 inch hardware. I used a 1/4 inch stainless steel bolt, stainless steel washers and a Nylock nut. After enlarging the hole I cleaned the frame, bolted everything together then sprayed the area with battery terminal protector.



Using my clamp on amperage meter and a digital voltmeter I found no continuity loss between the generator ground cable and the coach/house ground. During cranking I found the voltage would dip into the 10 + volt range. After the generator was running and producing voltage the 12 volt positive cable was displaying a charging voltage of 14.5 volts and .023 to .026 amperes of current.

My 7.5 KW Onan produces a charging voltage and a small charging current.