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Steering Gear Pitman Shaft Movement

Application:

Vehicles with power steering gear boxes.

Problem:

Observed side-to-side movement of the steering gear box pitman shaft.

Cause:

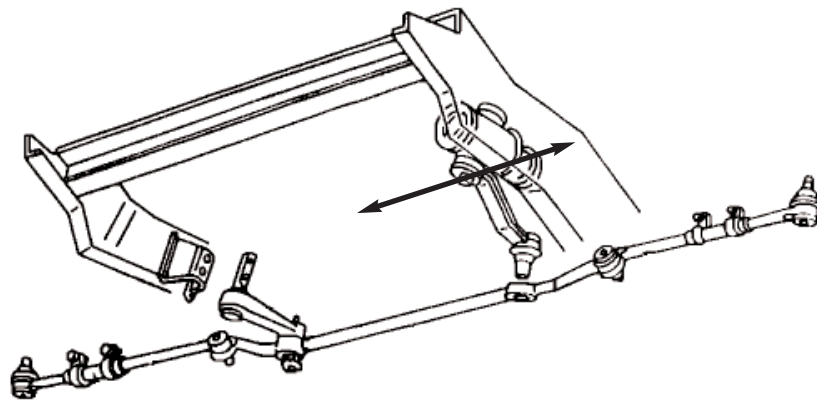
The majority of power steering gears are built with a roller bearing that supports the pitman shaft and allows it to rotate; the force that is placed on the pitman arm transfers to the pitman shaft. This roller bearing is designed to absorb that type of movement, however, for some applications a noticeable amount of lateral movement can be observed (see graphic below). This is a normal characteristic of a roller bearing when used in this application.

IMPORTANT NOTE

- This is not the result of a defective steering gear and/or other related internal steering gear components.
- This type of play is not related to excessive steering wheel play or vehicle drift and wander.

Solution:

Diagnosis and repair of steering wheel play, vehicle drift or vehicle wander may be attained by referencing your vehicle's service manual and technical service bulletins related to steering problems. For example, see Chrysler (Dodge truck) TSB 05-04-99.



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