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## Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS: Fuser Oil Pump Error (9/95)

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TOPIC -----

I have a Color LaserWriter 12/600 of which has already had the photosensor PS10 replaced. The problem is, after about 150 pages the fuser oil pump error appears again. This problem must be something other than contamination of the photosensor PS10 through the Fuser oil. Is there any thing other than the Fuser oil that could be causing this to happen?

DISCUSSION -----

The fuser oil pump error is reported on the status panel any time that the PS10 photosensor is actuated. Early experience with the Color LaserWriter 12/600 PS showed that some of the PS10 sensors were giving false readings because they had been contaminated by residual fuser oil during shipping. In these cases, cleaning or replacing the PS10 photosensor corrected the problem.

The Color LaserWriter fuser assembly contains a closed loop oil circulation system that uses two sensors to determine whether an oil low condition, or an oil pump failure condition exists. Oil is pumped to the top of the fuser assembly and a thin coating is evenly distributed onto the upper fuser roller by the oil applying roller and a wiper blade. The excess oil flows down to the bottom of the fuser into an oil catch tray. A floating ball with a sensor flag attached to it rises and falls with the oil level in the catch tray. If the oil level rises too high, indicating that the pump is not pumping the oil out of the oil catch tray, then the sensor flag triggers photosensor PS10 causing a fuser oil pump error.

In order to determine whether the sensor flag is generating the error, use a small inspection mirror to view the PS10 photosensor while it is still in position. If the flag has risen to the level of the photosensor then the oil level is too high. Approximately 5-6 inches to the left of the PS10 photosensor is a small piece of 1/4-in. clear tubing that can be used to observe whether oil is flowing by manually pumping the teal green jam release lever. If small air bubbles can be seen flowing through tubing, the pump is probably working normally. Inspect the sensor flag to see whether it is stuck in the up position. If everything appears to be normal, but the error continues, then the fuser assembly should be replaced.

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