



3200 Series Owner Operator Manual

1 12 Volts DC from Power Converter

When 120 VAC is connected to Converter via commercial power of RV generator, Converter—via its Automatic Relay—is instantly switched into the circuit to convert the 120 VAC to 12 VDC to run 12 volt lights and motors in RV.

MODEL 3215—Utilizes Manual Switch in top panel of Converter—in place of Automatic Relay. Put

This switch in “CONV” position to convert 120 VAC to 12 VDC.

Equipment limited to operation from pure 12 volt battery power—including 12 volt TV’s, radios, stereos, unfiltered fluorescent lights—must be connected directly into RV storage battery line, or equipped with filter—as Converters do not produce the “pure” 12 volt DC needed by these items.

AUTOMATIC-RESET THERMAL BREAKER

A protective Thermal Breaker will “break” the 120 VAC power to Converter if Converter becomes overheated—by operation above its maximum limit for an extended period of time or obstruction of ventilation to unit.

Model 3220, 3230 or 3240—with Automatic Relay—will instantly switch 12V lights and motors to battery.

Model 3215 with Manual Switch—will simply interrupt the 120 VAC to Converter.

In either case, the Thermal Breaker will reset itself after a period of time, and the lights and motors will again resume operation from Converter—only to shortly again “break”. When this occurs, take immediate steps to correct cause of overheating. A portion of RV 12-volt load—lights or motors or both—should be turned off to reduce total load. Also, inspect Converter to make certain ventilation is not obstructed.

DC DISTRIBUTION PANEL

A DC Distribution Panel is installed in front compartment of Converter—or is located adjacent to Converter. This panel contains circuits with replaceable fuses for protection of RV 12-volt light and motor lines.

If any line is loaded beyond the capacity of its fuse, the fuse will “blow”. A portion of the 12-volt load on the line—lights and/or motors—must be turned off to reduce total load on the line below the capacity of the fuse. Replace fuse with same size fuse. DO NOT put in larger fuse than indicated.

If this reduction of load on the line does not stop the “blowing” of the replaceable fuses, there may be a “short” along the 12-volt line or at a nonfused 12-volt motor on the line. Check the RV 12-volt line and equipment on the line. Locate the “short” and take the necessary steps to repair it.

IMPORTANT

If 12 V lights and motors will NOT operate as indicated above, check to make certain 120 VAC power is power is properly attached to RV.

With 120 VAC power disconnected from RV as a safety measure, inspect electrical connection between RV 120 VAC distribution box and Converter and make certain RV 12 volt light and motor lines are properly wired to Converter—as per instructions in compartment. If necessary, check with your RV dealer or contact our Customer Service Department as indicated in No. 4.

12 Volts DC from Storage Battery

When 120 VAC is NOT connected to Converter via commercial power or RV generator, the Converter—via its Automatic Relay—will switch RV battery into the circuit for power to operate 12-volt lights and motors.

Model 3215—Utilizes a Manual Switch. Put it in “BATT” position to bring RV battery into the circuit.

When 120 VAC is again available, connect it to Converter. The Converter—through its Automatic Relay—will be brought back into circuit. For Converters with Manual Switch, put switch back in “CONV” position.

When operating RV 12-volt equipment from RV battery, reduce the amount of equipment in use—to conserve battery. Gradual dimming of lights and slowing of motors indicates low battery voltage. If 12 volt Equipment will not operate from RV battery, check wiring between Converter and battery. If this line is fused and “blown”, inspect for overload or “short”. DO NOT install oversize fuse. Make certain battery is fully charged—see No. 3 below.

Battery Charging Section—Option C

Units with OPTION C contain an automatic, solid-state Battery Charger Section. When 120 VAC power is connected to Converter, the Charger Section will automatically “sense” the condition of RV battery. If it is below “full charge,” Charger Section will start charging the battery.

If RV battery has been drawn down quite low, it will be charged at a relatively high amperage rate. If battery has not been severely drained, it will be charged at lower amperage rate. The rate of charge will decline as the battery reaches “full charge.” After battery reached “full charge,” the Charger will drop back to “maintenance” level. It will not resume active charging until battery again falls below “full charge.” If your storage battery cannot be charged as described above it is possible the battery is defective—see “Battery Maintenance” below.

STORAGE BATTERY MAINTENANCE

Warning—before inspecting or servicing storage battery, read and follow battery manufacturer’s cautions and directions.

Your RV storage battery must be properly maintained so it can perform its functions as described in No. 2 & 3 above. The following suggestions—plus those of battery manufacturer—will help you maintain your storage battery:

The battery must be in good condition with water at proper level when first installed in RV.

When 120 VAC is connected to Converter, check battery once a week. As battery ages, it will usually need water added more often.

If 120 VAC is not connected to Converter, it should be reconnected to Converter once a month for 8-12 hours to “recharge” battery.

If you store battery outside of RV, a battery charged should be connected to it at least once a month to recharge battery.

Do not allow battery to remain in discharged condition—it will become sulfated and not accept a proper “charge.”

Some situations, which may indicate, need for battery replacement are:

The loss of more water in one cell than others.

Continuous loss of water in all cells—perhaps accompanied by overheating of battery, gassing and extreme bubbling.

A marked difference in the specific gravity reading between one cell and others.

Parallax Power Components L.L.C. Warranty Statement

Parallax Power Components L.L.C., Goodland warrants its products to be free from defects in material or workmanship under normal use and service and limits the remedies to repair or replacement.

This warranty extends for one year from the date of purchase and is valid only to the original owner and within the continental limits of the United States and Canada.

If a problem should occur with your Parallax Power Components L.L.C. converter within the first twelve months after purchase, please contact a dealer that handles warranty on your brand of RV. No user serviceable parts inside.

Customer Service Department
Parallax Power Components L.L.C.
112 E. Union St.
Goodland, IN 47948
Telephone: 800-443-4859

Parallax Power Components L.L.C.

Series 3200

OWNER'S OPERATION AND WARRANTY GUIDE

Models 3215, 3220, 3230, 3240 Power Converters

Models 3215, 3220, 3230, and 3240 contain these standard functions:

Provide 12 volt DC power—up to load limit—to operate 12 volt lights and motors in Recreational Vehicle (RV) when connected to 120 volt AC power source.

3215—designed for 15 AMPS maximum continuous load

3220---designed for 20 AMPS maximum continuous load

3230---designed for 30 AMPS maximum continuous load

3240---designed for 40 AMPS maximum continuous load

Feature an AUTOMATIC RELAY to switch between the Converter and RV battery for 12 volt DC Power for RV. The 3215 uses a manual switch for this purpose. Functions No. 1 and No. 2 allow the electrical system of the RV to operate with 12 volt at all times.

Contain DC Distribution PANEL in front compartment with fused circuits for distribution of 12 volt DC within RV. Model 3215 contains one 20 AMP AGC fuse for 12 volt distribution.

Options for above converters (options found in code on front label):

OPTION C---Automatic, solid-state battery charger section.

OPTION P---DC output wire leads—in place of DC Distribution Panel.

OPTION X---AC Cord set for Connection of 120 VAC to Converter.

Parallax Power Components L.L.C. Power Converters are suitable for horizontal mounting and are to be wired per directions in compartment behind nameplate. For proper operation, owner must not obstruct ventilation of Converter compartment.

DO NOT DESTROY THIS GUIDE---For future reference, record:

Date of RV Purchase _____ Series No. _____

Model No. _____ Option Code _____
