

Product:	Description	Date
Speedometer	With an Allison transmission	Oct 00
Type:		_ 1
Electrical		Issue I

First, Gillig used our speedometer with an Allison transmission. Noise in the speed sensor or wires caused the speedometer to work like a tachometer. Gillig placed a low-pass filter in-line (510 ohms with 1uF cap, as documented below), which solved this problem. But, they said competitive speedometers worked without the need for this filter.

Blue Bird's problem is also with an Allison transmission. Blue Bird said the minimum speed signal has an amplitude of around 10V, so they can easily divide down to eliminate the noise, as Wilt suggested. (The peak noise amplitude was .8V).

I tested the circuit in the lab, and found the following:

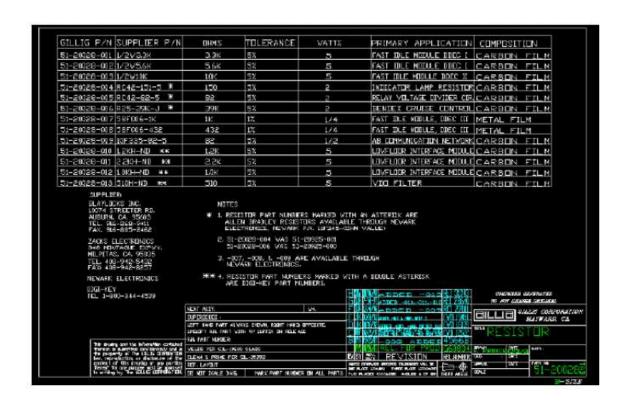
- 1) The input circuit will respond to signals as little as .3V (the spec you showed me states that the minimum voltage must be 1V).
- 2) The speedometer already has as much filtering as can be tolerated for the frequency range of the speed input; so adding low pas filters is usually not going to solve the problem, except in cases where the maximum speed frequency is low.

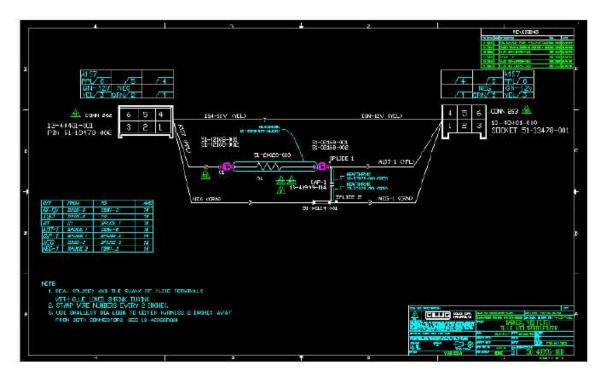
If we modified our speedometer to reject any signal which is below our spec (1V), I think many of these problems would go away. Do we really need to work with <1V?

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But this solution did not work with a ZF transmission. The pointer went to zero above around 25 MPH. Gillig claimed that our speedometer was setting off the over-current limit of the ZF transmission, which was around 50mA. I do not see how this is possible, since our speedometer has 30K ohm input resistors. But the ZF has a 10K ohm pull-up resistor, which when working with the in-line filter, will filter out the speed signal. I have a sample of this filter if you want to look at it.

Attached are BMP files I made of the same. (See attached file: 51-20028.bmp)(See attached file: 50-40996.bmp)(See attached





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