

Scan Tool Testing of the Ignition System

Meets ASE Task: A8 – B-5 – P-1

Name: _____ Date: _____ Time on Task: _____

Make/Model/Year: _____ VIN: _____

Evaluation (Enter number from 4, 3, 2, 1) : _____

- ☐ 1. Check service information for the recommended procedures to follow when using a scan tool to monitor what the vehicle computer is looking at and what commands are being sent to the various engine actuators and components.

- ☐ 2. Connect the scan tool to the data link connector (DLC) of the vehicle and scroll through the various parameters until engine RPM and ignition spark timing can be viewed.

Idle RPM = _____

Spark advance at idle = _____

- ☐ 3. Slowly increase engine speed and observe the amount of spark advance.

Spark advance at 1000 RPM = _____ degrees

Spark advance at 1500 RPM = _____ degrees

Spark advance at 2000 RPM = _____ degrees

Spark advance at 2500 RPM = _____ degrees

- ☐ 4. Scroll the display of the scan tool until knock sensor (KS) activity or timing retard is displayed (if the vehicle is so equipped).

KS signal at idle = _____ (should be near zero)

- ☐ 5. Increase engine speed while observing KS or timing retard amount. Did the computer retard timing?

Yes ☐ _____ No ☐ _____

- ☐ 6. Lightly tap on the engine block and observe KS or timing retard with the engine warmed above idle speed. Was a knock detected?

Yes ☐ _____ No ☐ _____

- ☐ 7. Based on the test results, what is the needed action? _____

