

Automatic Water Fill Valve

QUESTION: Hello, we have just purchased a 1990 Excella1000. It has an automatic water fill valve. It is not working and I can't locate it. Can you advise me where it is located? Thanks for the help.

ANSWER: I cannot find any specific reference to an automatic fill valve for your unit. However, my 1990 Classic Motor Home had a fill valve switch and it was on the galley panel, which also had the lights for the tank sensors and the water pump switch. Other year Excellas had the switch on this panel as well. However, the automatic fill function did not last very long. It seems the valves quickly corroded and locked up so switching on the 12 volts to the valve did nothing. Most people simply disconnected the wires to the valve. I actually fixed my valve twice but after the third failure I gave up. The valve was located near the water pump itself on the inlet side. This provided a bypass from the pump input directly to the water tank. I have not run into any unit which had the switch located in a different spot. By the way these valves were also a source for flooding. Occasionally, they would stick open and end up dumping water on the outside of the trailer, sometimes with nobody home.

The only automatic tank fillers I have found that work are on the motorhomes. These have a simple valve which allows you to fill the tank from the external water supply. This is useful since you are filling the tank using the built in water filters.

FOLLOW UP: Thank you so much for the information. It has saved me a lot of time looking for something I probably am better off without. Thanks for this service. I am so glad WBCCI is putting this type of info in the *Blue Beret*.