Retrofitting the Valeo Starter Motor - Boxer Models

When the new Valeo planetary gear starter motor was first installed on the 1988 R100GS and later to all 1989 Boxer models, a new starter relay was also installed. (Though the new starter motor uses less overall current in operation, the starter solenoid uses more current).

If the Valeo starter motor is retrofitted to earlier Boxer models with a starter relay with diode (previously part no. 61 31 1 244 019), the old relay must be replaced with relay part no. 61 36 1 391 397. If the earlier relay with diode is used, the contacts will overheat and may stick, causing unintended starter operation.

The new relay incorporates the following features:

- Larger current contact
- Stronger contact return spring
- Precise contact gap adjustment

Only starter relays with diodes are affected. No relay change is required to retrofit the starter to 1977 - 84 R80/100 T, S, RS or RT models (relay without diode).

Note: No stabilizer bracket is used with the Valeo Starter Motor.

Very truly yours,
BMW of North America, Inc.

Frank Stevens  
National Service Manager  
Motorcycle Group  
FS: jel/204.6

Richard Dampf  
National Technical Manager