

Car stereo output stage blown

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- *From:* JR North <junkjasonrnorth@xxxxxxxxxxx>
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Pyle PLRG23

I had the unit out, on the bench, troubleshooting no FM lock. AM was fine. I had power/ground connected to the plug, which also carries the speaker circuits. These are female connectors. The radio was on, at min volume. I did not have speakers connected. During initial testing with a logic probe in the tuner section, the radio shut off. I found high current draw in the power supply, and turned it off immediately. On checking, the radio would not power up, and drew 10A from the supply. I determined the monolithic stereo output chip (TDA-burn) was dead short to ground. The heatsink was quite hot.

Q:

Could the chip fry from no load connected? I'm certain I didn't short it at the plug, and wasn't even in the output stage with my tests.

JR

Home Page: <http://www.seanet.com/~jasonrnorth>

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