



# SPEEDCHECK®

## SOLAR CHARGE CONTROLLER REPLACEMENT GUIDE

### For the solar-powered SPEEDCHECK-15/18 radar speed signs



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## 1.0 Warnings and Precautions

The following symbols indicate important safety warnings and precautions throughout this guide:



WARNING indicates that serious bodily harm or death may result from failure to adhere to the precautions.



CAUTION indicates that damage to equipment may result if the instructions are not followed.



NOTE suggests optimal conditions and provides additional information.

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### 1.1 Warranty Disclaimer

This guide will familiarize you with the installation of Carmanah's replacement SpeedCheck charge controller kit. Failure to comply with the use, storage, maintenance, installation or placement instructions detailed in this guide could void the warranty.

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### 1.2 Standards

Perform all installation, wiring, grounding and maintenance in conformance with local building and electrical codes. Adherence to the National Electrical Code (NEC) is mandatory to comply with any certification markings. Non-adherence to code may void the warranty.

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### 1.3 Safety and Usage Precautions



Use extreme caution when handling the batteries as they can generate hazardous short-circuit currents. Remove all jewelry (bracelets, metal-strap watches, etc.) before handling the batteries.



Solar panels produce DC electricity when exposed to light and can therefore produce an electrical shock or burn. To render solar panels inoperative, remove them from sunlight or fully cover their front surface with an opaque material.



Before lifting any heavy or bulky equipment, ensure the load is secured so moving parts do not shift, and that it can be lifted as far as needed without back strain or loss of grip. Installation may require more than one person.



Ensure the equipment is not powered during installation and wiring of the system.



Recheck all completed wiring for proper polarity prior to energizing the system.



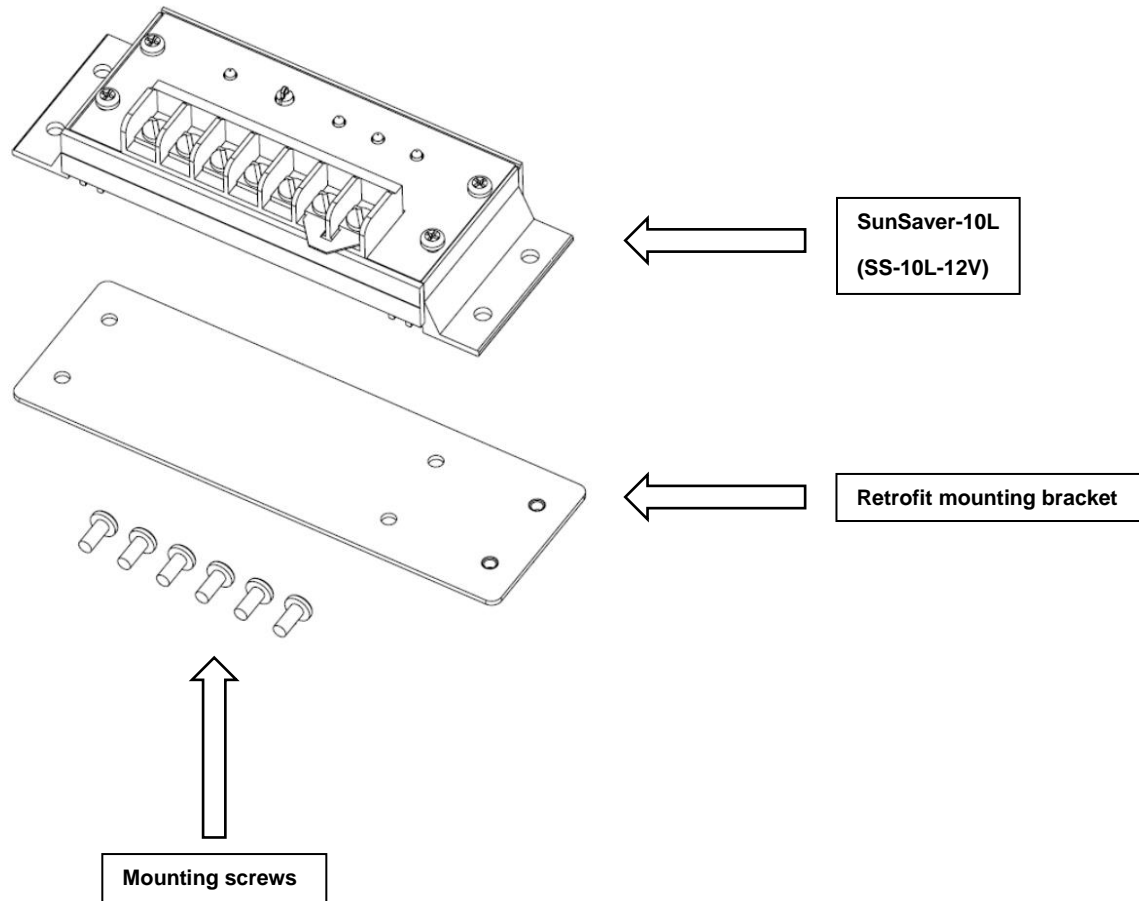
Changes or modifications to Carmanah equipment not expressly approved by Carmanah could void both the user's authority to operate the equipment and the warranty.



**This guide is specific to the SpeedCheck charge controller installation and is not a replacement for the complete SPEEDCHECK-15/18 product user manual.**

Visit [support.carmanah.com](http://support.carmanah.com) to download the complete product user manual.

## 2.0 Solar Charge Controller Kit Overview



### Note:

1. Retrofit mounting bracket required only if installing the SunSaver charge controller into a legacy battery cabinet as shown below. This would replace a legacy charge controller by ASC.
2. All six mounting screws only required when using the retrofit mounting bracket.



### 3.0 Installation Procedure

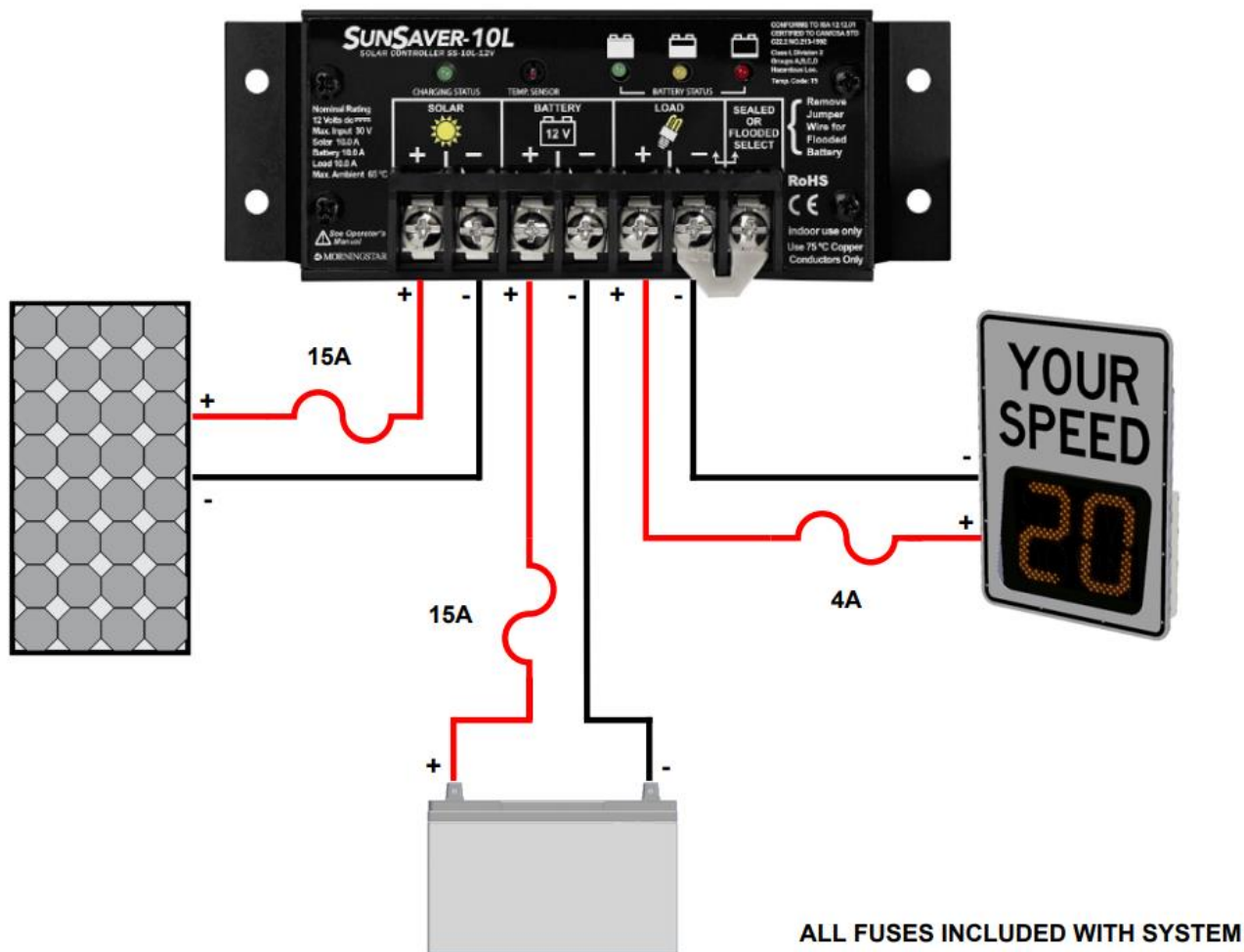
This guide is for installing the SunSaver-10L charge controller into a solar equipped SPEEDCHECK-15/18 system.

Refer to the individual product user manual for more details at [support.carmanah.com](http://support.carmanah.com) and the SunSaver installation/operation manual at [morningstarcorp.com](http://morningstarcorp.com).

Refer to [Section 4](#) to confirm if your system contains a large capacitor that needs to be removed.

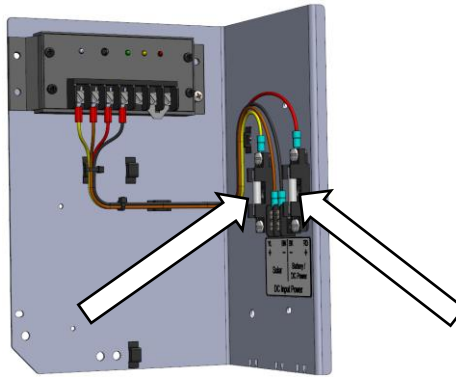
The images in this guide may differ from your SpeedCheck radar speed sign. They are for illustrative purposes only.

#### 3.1 Wiring Overview

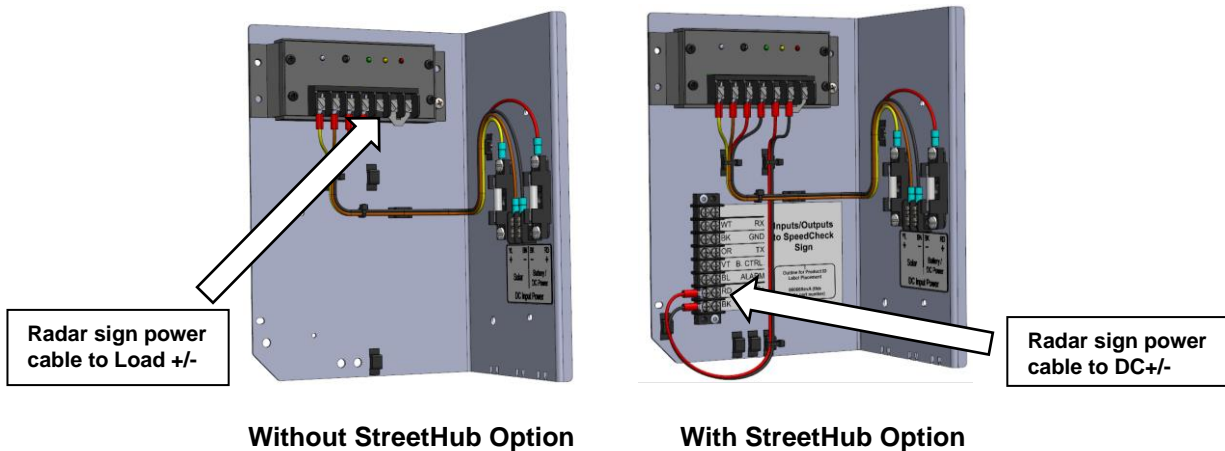


### 3.2 SPEEDCHECK-15/18

1. Disconnect power to the SPEEDCHECK-15/18 sign by removing the fuse(s) in the associated battery cabinet.



2. Disconnect the wiring and remove the existing charge controller from the battery cabinet. Remove the solar panel wires last and cap off temporarily with wire nuts.
3. For systems that are replacing the legacy ASC charge controller you will require the retrofit mounting bracket. Attach the new charge controller using the provided mounting screws to the battery box. All six screws are required when replacing the ASC charge controller.
4. Refer to [Section 3.1](#) and below for wiring the new charge controller, using the same existing wiring.



- a. Ensure the radar sign power cable is connected to the load terminals. This will enable the sign to take advantage of the charge controller's built-in low voltage disconnection protection.
  - b. Keep track of the polarity for each component (red/yellow = positive, black/brown = negative).
5. Refer to [Section 4.0](#) to confirm if your system has a large capacitor installed. If this is present it must be removed, otherwise the charge controller may exhibit a load error.
  6. Reinstall the fuses in the battery cabinet to apply power to the radar sign. Ensure the charge controller charging status LED turns green and the battery starts charging.

## 4.0 Capacitor Removal

This section is only required if your system has a large capacitor installed in one of the following locations:

- SPEEDCHECK-15 – installed in the bottom right corner of the sign enclosure
- SPEEDCHECK-18 – installed on the rear back panel of the sign enclosure

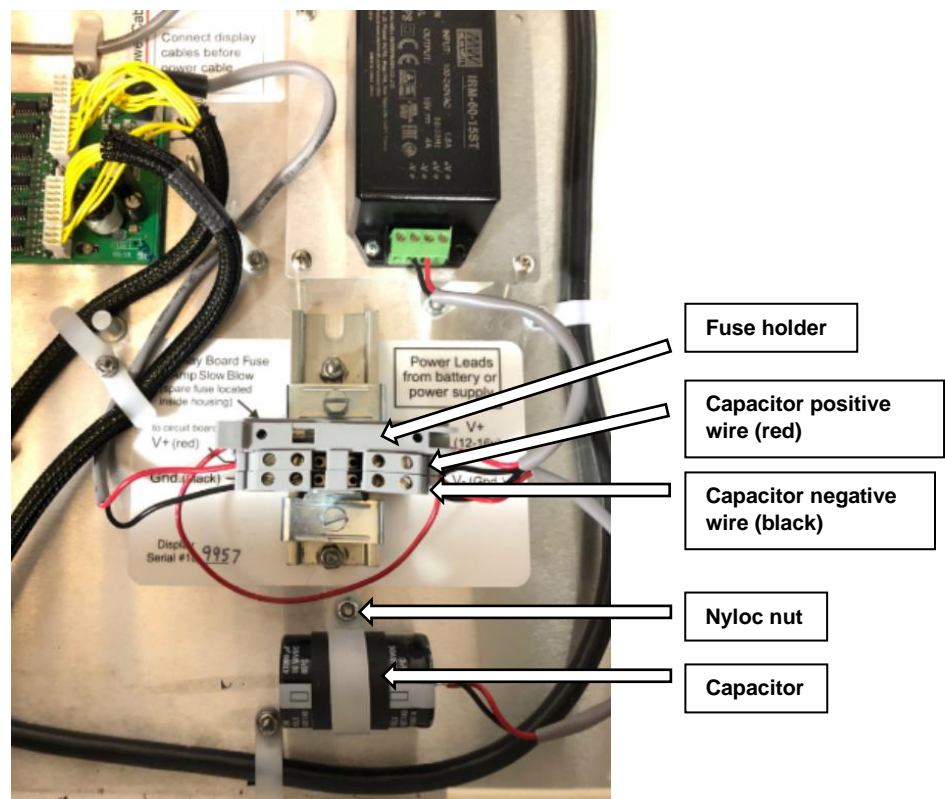
The capacitor needs to be removed after installing the replacement controller.



Do not short the two capacitor wires together as this can short out the capacitor and cause physical harm or burns.

### 4.1 SPEEDCHECK-15 Capacitor Removal

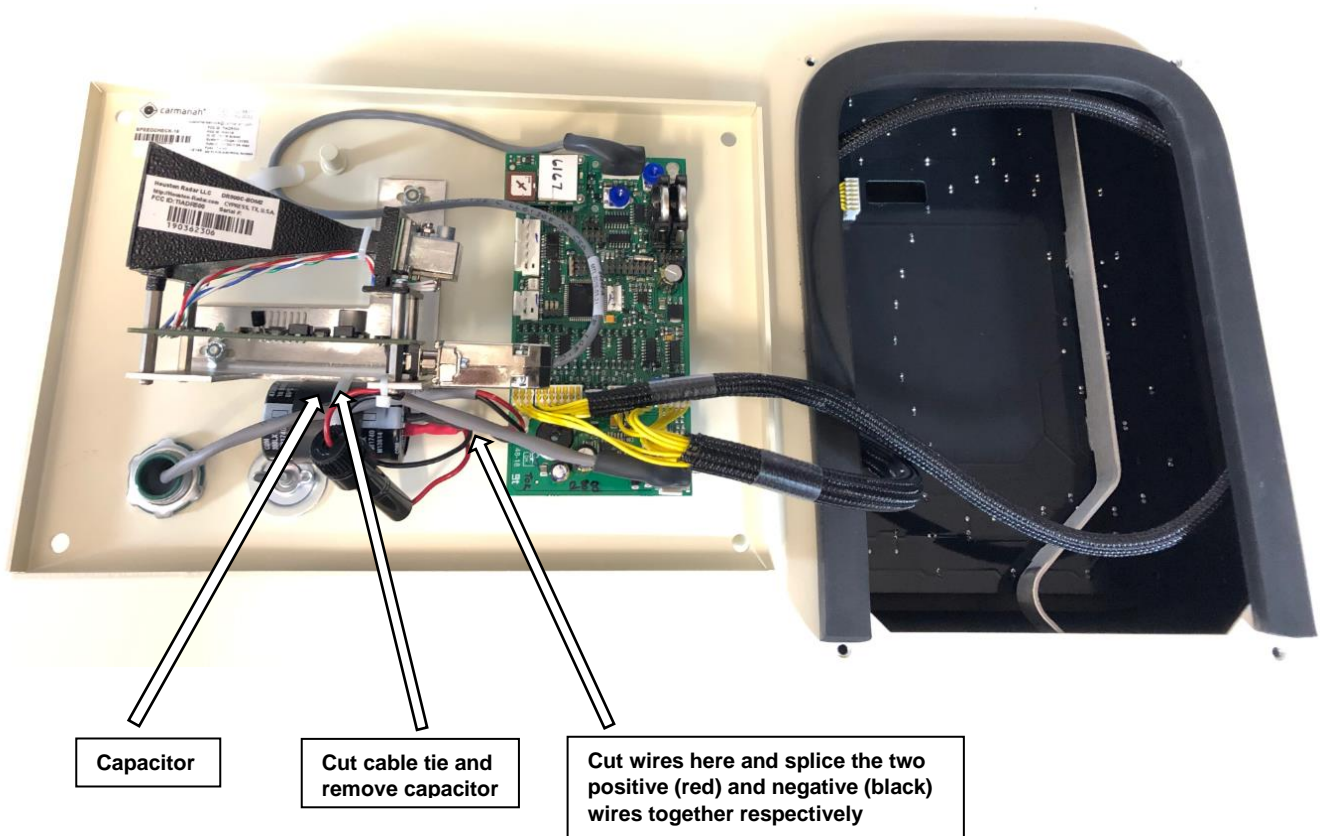
1. Remove the capacitor wires from the terminal blocks. Cap off each wire one at a time with wire nuts after they are removed.
2. Remove the nyloc nut and fully remove the capacitor from the system.
3. Close all fuse blocks and ensure battery voltage is passing through to the SpeedCheck control board inside the SPEEDCHECK-15.
4. Reassemble system.





## 4.2 SPEEDCHECK-18 Capacitor Removal

1. Remove the four screws securing the back panel on the rear of the radar sign, locate the capacitor, and open the fuse holder.
2. Cut the two positive and two negative wires going into the capacitor, just before the heat shrink.
3. Cut the cable tie (or remove the nyloc nut on legacy systems) and fully remove the capacitor from the system.
4. Butt splice the two positive wires together and then the two negatives together, using heat shrinkable butt splices. It is advised to also put heat shrink over the butt splice for added protection.
  - a. Wago splicing connectors are also an acceptable alternative to butt splicing.
5. Close the fuse holder on the back panel of the SPEEDCHECK-18.
6. Reassemble system.





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