GENERAL

allison transmissions parts numbers conversion list cross referanced to ih part numbers by international harvester

Published: September 19, 2026 | Index ID: #-

Introduction

When you're working with heavy equipment fleets, the right transmission part can mean the difference between a productive day on the job site and a costly outage. For operators who rely on **Allison Transmissions** in conjunction with older **International Harvester (IH)** machinery, finding the exact part you need is a task that requires precision. This is where a **parts numbers conversion list**comes into play – a cross referenced catalog that maps Allison part numbers to their IH equivalents.

In this article we'll explore the background of both brands, explain why a conversion list is essential, walk through how to read and use one, and even give you a step by step guide for building your own. Whether you're a fleet manager, a repair technician, or a parts specialist, this resource will help you streamline procurement, reduce downtime, and keep your machines running at peak performance.

Understanding Allison Transmissions and International Harvester

Allison Transmission Overview

Allison Transmission, a division of Rolls Royce Power Systems, has been a leading producer of automatic transmissions for commercial vehicles, tractors, and industrial equipment since the 1940s. Their product line includes the popular **Allison 1000**, **2500**, and **5000**series, each designed for specific torque and horsepower ranges. These transmissions are renowned for their durability, smooth shifting, and extensive aftermarket support.

International Harvester Legacy

International Harvester, founded in 1902, was a pioneer in agricultural and construction equipment. Its heavy duty trucks, tractors, and harvesters often featured Allison transmissions as part of their drivetrain. Over the decades, IH's part numbering system evolved, reflecting changes in manufacturing processes, component suppliers, and regional variations. This legacy system can be confusing for modern technicians who are used to the standardized numbering conventions of Allison.

The Need for Parts Numbers Conversion

Why Cross Referencing Matters

Cross referencing is the process of matching a part number from one manufacturer's catalog to its equivalent in another's catalog. For fleets that have transitioned from IH to Allison or use a mix of both, the need for accurate cross referencing is paramount. A single misidentified part can lead to:

- Incompatible fitment or performance issues
- Extended downtime while the wrong part is sourced
- Potential damage to the transmission or drivetrain
- Increased repair costs due to unnecessary replacements

Challenges in Parts Identification

Several factors complicate parts identification:

1. Different naming conventions – IH often used alphanumeric codes that included series, revision, and sometimes region.
2. Multiple revisions – A single component might have had several revisions over its lifespan, each with a distinct part number.
3. Aftermarket variations – Some parts were produced by third‑party manufacturers and assigned unique numbers.
4. Limited documentation – Older IH manuals and catalogs may be scarce or not digitized.

How the Conversion List Works

Structure of the List

A well‑constructed conversion list typically contains the following columns:

- Allison Part Number – The official number used in Allison's catalog.
- IH Part Number – The corresponding number in the International Harvester system.
- Component Description – A brief description of the part.
- Revision or Version – Indicates the specific revision, if applicable.
- Notes – Any special considerations, such as compatibility warnings or required adapters.

Key Components and Terminology

When working with the list, it's helpful to understand common terminology:

- OEM – Original Equipment Manufacturer, the original supplier of the part.
- Aftermarket – Parts produced by third‑party manufacturers.
- Revision – A change or update to a component after its initial release.
- Cross‑Reference – The mapping between two distinct part numbering systems.

Using the List in Practice

To use the conversion list effectively, follow these steps:

1. Identify the required Allison part number from your repair manual or diagnostic tool.
2. Search for that number in the conversion list.
3. Verify the IH part number and any associated notes.
4. Order the IH part (or the equivalent aftermarket part) using the provided number.
5. Confirm fitment with the machine's serial number and service history.

Sample Conversion Table

Example 1: Allison 1000 Series

Below is a simplified excerpt illustrating how a few components from the Allison 1000 series map to IH part numbers.

Allison Part #	IH Part #	Description	Revision	Notes
1000 A 01	IH A 1001	Input Shaft	Rev 2	Use with 5 speed transmission only
1000 B 02	IH B 2003	Output Shaft	Rev 1	Check for wear before installation
1000 C 03	IH C 3005	Gear Set	Rev 3	Matches IH 5000 series gear set

Example 2: Allison 2500 Series

Similarly, for the Allison 2500 series, the conversion list might look like this:

Allison Part #	IH Part #	Description	Revision	Notes
2500 A 01	IH A 4001	Torque Converter	Rev 4	Compatible with IH 7000 series
2500 B 02	IH B 5002	Valve Body	Rev 2	Requires new seals
2500 C 03	IH C 6003	Clutch Pack	Rev 1	Aftermarket replacement available

Steps to Create Your Own Conversion List

Gathering Data

Start by collecting all available resources:

- Allison transmission manuals and parts catalogs.
- International Harvester service bulletins and parts lists.
- Digital databases from parts distributors.
- Historical repair records from your fleet.

Mapping Part Numbers

With data in hand, begin mapping each Allison part to its IH counterpart. Use a spreadsheet for ease of editing and filtering. Pay attention to:

- Serial numbers and revision codes.
- Physical dimensions and mounting points.
- Material specifications.

Validating Accuracy

Once the mapping is complete, validate the entries by cross checking against multiple sources. You can also perform a physical test fit on a spare unit or use a CAD model to confirm compatibility.

Storing and Updating the List

Store the final list in a centralized location, such as a shared drive or a cloud based inventory system. Establish a version control protocol to track changes over time. Schedule periodic reviews, especially after new revisions are released.

Tools and Resources

Online Databases

Several online platforms provide parts cross referencing data:

- PartsLink – Offers OEM parts catalogs and cross reference tools.
- TransTech Solutions – Specializes in heavy equipment transmission parts.
- TruckParts.com – Provides a searchable database of aftermarket components.

Software Solutions

For larger fleets, consider dedicated parts management software:

- FleetOps – Integrates parts ordering with maintenance schedules.
- PartsHub – Offers automated cross reference mapping.
- TransTrack – Focuses on transmission diagnostics and parts inventory.

Manufacturer Support

Both Allison and International Harvester have support lines and technical teams that can assist with part identification. Reach out for clarification on ambiguous numbers or revision histories.

Common Pitfalls and How to Avoid Them

Mislabeling and Duplicate Entries

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