To clarify the brush orientation for field brush configuration. The following is a typical set up, regrettably there are hundreds of different designs in respect of alternators so the following only covers off the majority.

Although the following statement is true for 95% of alternator types, some manufacturers reverse this procedure and regrettably it is trial and error to get it correct.

The ZM4 is a negative brush control system, this means that the positive brush requires power at all times and the theory is we control the negative brush which controls the output of the alternator as per the setting on the ZM4.

The following photo best shows the correct orientation.