

DATE: November 10, 1993

SUBJECT: Top Drive Disc Brakes

SERIAL NUMBERS: All

DISCUSSION: Proper maintenance of brakes can greatly increase the life of components.

RECOMMENDATION: The brake fluid reservoir should be visually checked on a daily basis. A

sudden drop in oil level may indicate worn components. Be sure to use a

mineral base oil only in the brake system.

The brake calipers should be checked weekly. A function test should be done at this time. There should be a minimum gap of .06" between the brake pads and the disc. If the brake pads are dragging, the system may require bleeding to eliminate any trapped air. The brake actuator should be bled first, and then the brake calipers. With the brake on, loosen the bleed screw on the component until there is no sign of air mixed with the oil. Close the bleed screw. Cyle the brake off and on. Repeat the process until no air is visible in the system. In addition to premature wear, dragging break pads can also cause excessive heat build-up in the brake compartment.

INFORMATION:

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