

The Bendix® Type 14 Service Chamber Recall – Understanding the Issues – Internal Bendix Document

What is the issue?

Bendix Spicer Foundation Brake LLC has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in Bendix® T-14 service brake chambers used on some Bendix® ADB22X™ air disc brakes to be installed on steer axles of some trucks. The applicable part numbers for the subject T-14 service chambers are 5016652, 5016653, 5016656 and 5016657. The date codes marked by BSFB on the potentially affected products are May 20, 2008 (1E2008) through July 3, 2008 (1G0308), inclusive.

How many service chambers are impacted? What about the air disc brakes?

Approximately 353 service chambers that were manufactured at our KB facility in the Czech Republic are impacted. *Only the service chamber, not the air disc brake, is included in the scope of this effort.*

What types of vehicles are affected?

Any commercial vehicle equipped with a Bendix® T-14 service brake chamber with the BSFB date code covered by the recall, which are used on some Bendix® ADB22X™ air disc brakes installed on steer axles of some trucks.

What OEMs are affected by this recall?

The product was shipped to both PACCAR and Daimler Trucks (for FCCC).

What is the defect?

The supplier – our KB facility in the Czech Republic – made a change to their manufacturing process, adding a lubricant for use as an assembly aid. The lubricant can migrate between the pushrod base and the rubber diaphragm. The presence of this lubricant may allow the pushrod to slide off of the diaphragm, causing the pushrod to misalign and become lodged in the chamber body after a brake application.

What can happen because of this problem?

As a result of the push rod lodging the brake may not fully release even though the brake pressure has been released. This may result in the brake dragging or locking.

How does this issue relate to vehicle brakes?

If a brake on a steer axle remains partially applied, vehicle steer ability and stability can be affected on low coefficient (slippery) road surfaces.

How will a customer know they have an impacted service chamber?

The campaign involves Bendix® T-14 service chambers used on some Bendix® ADB22X™ air disc brakes to be installed on steer axles of some trucks. The date codes marked by BSFB on the potentially affected products are May 20, 2008 (1E2008) through July 3, 2008 (1G0308), inclusive. The product was shipped only to PACCAR and Daimler Trucks.

The first step is to check the caliper part number and date code on the caliper to determine if the service chamber is potentially within the campaign date range. Refer to the Product Identification Guide posted in the online Recall Center at www.bendix.com. Only the service chambers installed on Bendix caliper part numbers 5015428, 5015429, 5016644, and 5016645 with date codes 1E2008 (May 20, 2008) through 1G0308 (July 3, 2008) are potentially affected by this campaign. If the brake caliper date code is outside these limits, no action is needed. If the date code falls within the dates stated, the service chamber date codes must be checked.

Only Bendix T-14 service chamber part numbers 5016656, 5016657, 5016652, and 5016653 with date codes 1E2008 (May 20, 2008) through 1G0308 (July 3, 2008) are affected by this campaign. If the service brake chamber date code is outside these limits, no replacement part is needed. If the date codes falls within the dates stated, record the information and contact Mike Cremean – program manager for air disc brakes – at 440-329-9317 or michael.cremean@bendix.com.

What notifications have been made?

Since the start of July, the Bendix OE sales force and members of the BSFB air disc brake group have been working alongside our customers to help identify and isolate the impacted product and bring this activity to as rapid a conclusion as possible. A letter was sent to both Paccar and Daimler Trucks in mid-July to notify them of the start of our field service action. Because we have now initiated a formal safety recall, the OEMs will be required to file a defect notification report to NHTSA, and if they sold vehicles into Canada, to notify the regulatory agency in Canada (Transport Canada) as well.

Does the recall notification mean there is any risk to motor vehicle safety?

Federal law requires manufacturers to report any defect that may present an unreasonable risk to motor vehicle safety.

If a vehicle is equipped with an affected Type-14 service chamber, what should be done?

The vehicle should be brought into the dealership for a replacement T-14 brake chamber.

Have there been any accidents or injuries as a result of this problem?

There have been no reports of any accidents or injuries involving this product issue. To date service chambers experiencing the “lodged pushrod” failure mode have only occurred at our customer manufacturing locations before the vehicle left the assembly plant.

What is BSFB doing to address this issue? Is it necessary to replace the entire air disc brake or just the service chamber?

BSFB is working with the vehicle OEMs to ensure that recall notification is provided to all fleets and owners that may have vehicles equipped with potentially affected products. Only the service chamber and not the air disc brake is included in the scope of this effort, therefore only the service chamber should be replaced.

If a vehicle has a Type 14 service chamber within the recall date codes but has not experienced any problems, should it still be repaired now?

Yes. If a customer receives a Safety Recall Notice from Bendix or the vehicle manufacturer, they should have the recall remedy performed on their vehicle. We recommend they make an appointment to have the service chamber replaced promptly.

If an owner has a vehicle with Bendix air disc brakes, but not with the affected service chambers, should they still participate in the recall?

No. That would not be necessary.

Who can I call if I have technical questions?

If you have questions or need more information about the Bendix® T-14 service chamber voluntary recall, customers should contact their Bendix account manager or please contact Mike Cremean – BSFB program manager for air disc brakes – at 440-329-9317 or michael.cremean@bendix.com.

For additional details regarding the Bendix® T-14™ Service Chamber Recall, email us at type14campaign@foundationbrakes.com or call the Recall Assistance Center, toll-free, at 1-877-461-2732. Representatives are available to assist you, Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET.