



Foundation Brake Operational Check and Troubleshooting

- Note:**
- Block wheels to prevent vehicle from rolling.
 - Ensure system tank pressure is at 90-100 psi.
 - Check that push rod is fully retracted; apply air to release spring brake.

North American Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) Uniform Vehicle Inspection Criteria

The applied stroke of the brake should be checked per CVSA guidelines at 90-100 PSI reservoir pressure. **Applied stroke** should be at or less than the specified adjustment limits as follows:

Standard Clamp Type Brake Chamber			
Type	Adjustment Limit	Type	Adjustment Limit
9	1-3/8"	24	1-3/4"
12	1-3/8"	30	2"
16	1-3/4"	36	2-1/4"
20	1-3/4"		

Long Stroke Type Brake Chamber			
Type	Adjustment Limit	Type	Adjustment Limit
16L	2"	24LS	2-1/2"
20L	2"	30LS	2-1/2"
24L	2"		

NOTE: Long stroke chambers are identified with square air ports or port bosses and special trapezoid ID tags.

Free Stroke

Measuring the Free Stroke

Free stroke is the amount of movement of the adjuster arm required to move the brake shoes against the drum. With brakes released, measure from the face of the chamber to the center of the clevis pin "A" (fig. 19). Use a lever to move the brake adjuster until the brake shoes contact the drum "B" (fig. 19). The difference between the fully retracted and drum contact measurement "B"–"A" (fig. 19), is the free stroke. The free stroke range should fall between 3/8"–3/4".

Free Stroke Within Range

If the free stroke is good, but the applied stroke is too long, there is probably a problem with the foundation brake. Check the following and reference CVSA out-of-service criteria:

Component	Cause	Action
Brake drums	Cracked or out of round	Replace or check drum run out
Brake shoes	Shoe span out of spec	Refer to OEM specs and replace if necessary
Brake shoes	Uneven lining wear	Check spider concentricity
Brake shoes	Shoe pad missing	Remove & replace shoes
Brake shoes	Cracked shoes	Remove & replace shoes
Cam bushings	Excessive movement	Remove & replace cam bushings per OEM specs
Camshaft	Flat spots on cam head	Replace camshaft
Camshaft	Cracked/broken splines	Replace camshaft
Camshaft	Worn bearing journals	Replace camshaft
Chamber bracket	Broken/bent	Replace bracket
Clevis yoke and pin	Worn	Remove & replace
Return springs	Broken/stretched or missing	Remove & replace springs
Rollers	Flat spots, grooved pin/worn	Remove & replace roller and pin
Rollers	Wrong size	Remove & replace with correct parts
Spider anchor pins	Grooved or scored/worn	Replace spider or pins, as appropriate for OEM

Free Stroke Above the Range

If the free stroke is above the range and the applied stroke is too long, there is a problem with the foundation brake or the adjuster. Check the following:

Component	Cause	Action
Camshaft	Binding	Remove, replace, lubricate camshaft
Camshaft bushings	Excessive movement	Remove and replace cam bushings per OEM specs
Camshaft bushings	Binding shaft	Lubricate camshaft bushings or replace
Air chamber return springs	Broken, weak, missing	Replace chamber
Air chamber push rod	Binding on chamber housing	Check adjuster for proper shimming and air chamber position for proper adjuster arm length
Air system	Not exhausting completely	Check for cause of air problem and repair
Shoe return springs	Broken, weak, missing	Replace springs
Automatic brake adjuster	Unknown	Check automatic brake adjuster for proper installation. Refer to Installation Instructions on pages 4 & 5.
Automatic brake adjuster	Unknown	Refer to Automatic Brake Adjuster Checking Procedures and Operational Check on pages 9 & 10.

Free Stroke Below the Range

If the free stroke is less than 3/8", a dragging brake can occur. Check the following:

Component	Cause	Action
Wheel bearing	Out of adjustment	Readjust per OEM specs
Automatic brake adjuster	Unknown	Check automatic brake adjuster for proper control arm position. Refer to Installation Instructions on pages 4 & 5.
Automatic brake adjuster	Unknown	Refer to Automatic Brake Adjuster Checking Procedures and Operational Check on pages 9 & 10.

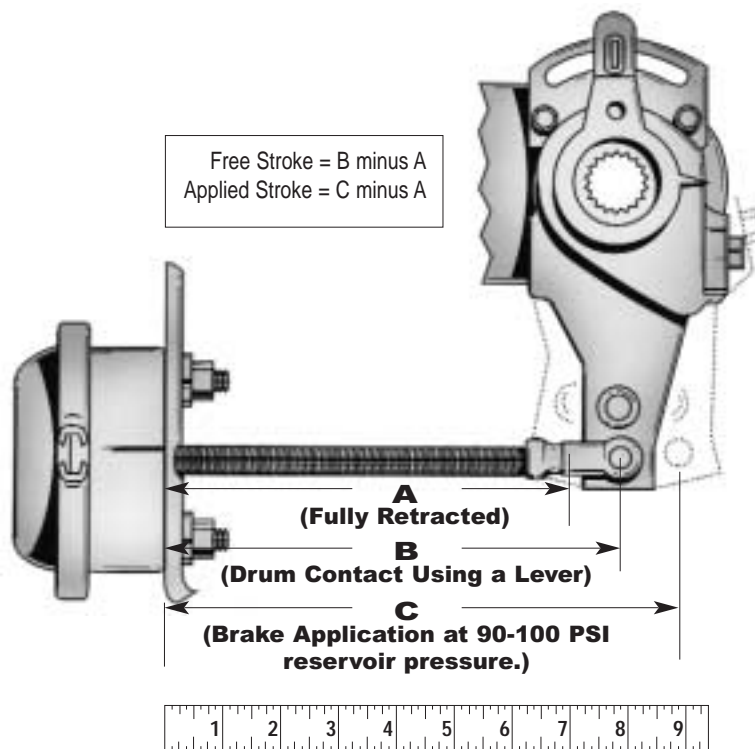


Figure 19
Stroke Measurements
(taken from face of air chamber
to center of clevis pin)