

Vehicle Safety and Standards

BULLETIN

To All Designated Inspection Facilities and Authorized Inspectors

Re: Inspection of Air Brake Chambers

Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement (CVSE) has been advised of inspection problems regarding the application of inspection „reject” criterion for “mismatched air brake chamber size on same axle group” when inspecting standard, long and extra long stroke chambers. The current Vehicle Inspection Manual (VIM) truck / tractor, trailer and bus / school bus sections for air brake mechanical component inspection states the following:

Visually inspect:	Reject if:
a) service brake chambers (all) – measure and record service brake chamber size	a) damaged, mounted insecurely, leaking, corroded – drain hole not pointing in a downward direction or plugged – mismatched chamber size on same axle group – binding, piston return spring broken

This bulletin is to clarify the meaning and intent of mismatched chamber size on same axle group. The application of the term „size” includes both air brake chamber diameter **and** any variance between standard stroke, long stroke and extra long stroke chambers on each axle.

Operators of Designated Inspection Facilities and Preventative Maintenance Inspection Facilities that are authorized to conduct inspections on vehicles equipped with air brakes must ensure that all authorized inspectors at their facilities are aware of this requirement. Any vehicle equipped with different size brake chambers which includes different size stroke length chambers across each axle must not pass the provincial inspection process.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the new Vehicle Inspection Regulation manual or any of the related documents, please contact your local area vehicle inspector at http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/cvse/vehicle_inspections/PDF/MVI_Phone_List.pdf, or my office at 250-953-4008.

Regards,



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