

GUNITE Service Bulletin

GFL 93-6 Brake Adjustment Procedure for Gunitite Automatic Slack Adjusters - February 4, 1993

Dragging brake problems have been reported in the field due to improper manual adjustment of all brands of automatic slack adjuster on new vehicles and at brake reline.

With today's new brake shoe designs and variances in lining thickness, proper adjustment after automatic slack adjuster installation and brake reline is essential.

The proper method to adjust the Gunitite automatic slack adjuster is to rotate the adjusting hex clockwise until the brake shoes contact the drum (Figure 1). Back the adjusting hex off counterclockwise one-half turn. A ratcheting sound will be heard.

Measure the free stroke (Figure 2). Use a lever to measure the movement of the slack adjuster until the brake shoes contact the drum. The free stroke should be $3/8"$ to $5/8"$.



Figure 1

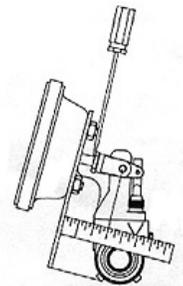


Figure 2

The brakes may drag if they are adjusted to less than $3/8"$ free stroke (free stroke is the amount of movement of the automatic slack adjuster to move the brake shoes against the brake drum).

Take a power stroke measurement using the following procedures:

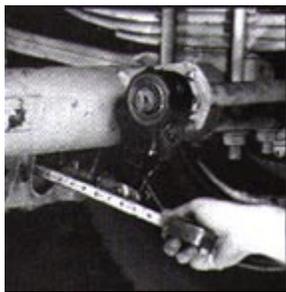


Figure 3

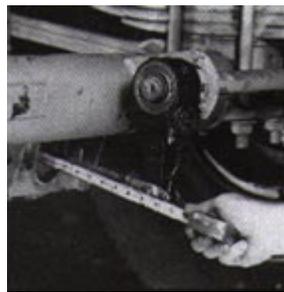


Figure 4

Measure from the face of the brake chamber to the center of the clevis pin at all wheel locations. (Figure 3)

Make brake applications until air reservoir gauge reads 90-100 PSI. Have someone make a full-on brake application and hold.

Again, measure from the face of the brake chamber to the center of the clevis pin (Figure 4).

The difference between the released and applied measurements is the power stroke.

The power stroke should be less than the maximum allowable stroke for the appropriate chamber size.

GUNITE Service Bulletin

"STANDARD" CLAMP TYPE BRAKE CHAMBER DATA

TYPE	OUTSIDE DIAMETER	RATED STROKE	MAXIMUM STROKE AT WHICH BRAKES MUST BE READJUSTED
9	5-1/4	1.75	1-3/8
12	5-11/16	1.75	1-3/8
16	6-3/8	2.25	1-3/4
20	6-25/32	2.25	1-3/4
24	7-7/32	2.25	1-3/4
30	8-3/32	2.50	2
36*	9	3.00	2-1/4

*Note: If type 36 chamber is used, slack length should be less than 6"

"LONG STROKE" CLAMP TYPE BRAKE CHAMBER DATA

TYPE	OUTSIDE DIAMETER	RATED STROKE	MAXIMUM STROKE AT WHICH BRAKES MUST BE READJUSTED
16	6-3/8	2.50	2
20	6-25/32	2.50	2
24	7-7/32	2.50	2
24*	7-7/32	3.00	2-1/2
30*	8-3/32	3.00	2-1/2

*Note: Identified by square air port bosses.

On a new brake assembly, the power stroke can be close to the maximum allowable stroke. Once the brake wears in and the adjustment is stabilized, the power stroke will reduce. Do not adjust the brake to a short power stroke; the result will be a dragging brake. If the the free stroke is 3/8" - 5/8" and the power stroke cannot be maintained, a problem exists in the foundation brake.

Additional training materials available:

TMC/ATA S-Cam Brake Adjustment
VHS video available for a fee.
Telephone: 800-282-5463

Gunite Automatic Slack Adjuster Service Manual available at No Charge.
Telephone: 800-677-3768