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Webb Wheel Newsletter

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Checking maximum diameter is simple when you use the Webb Vortex® Unlimited drums with patented wear indicator

Webb Wheel has received patent approval (Patent #9,022,181) for the Webb Vortex Unlimited® wear indicator that makes checking the maximum diameter easy – without removing the drum, saving time and money. Additionally, The Webb Vortex® Unlimited patented design features external cooling ribs that conduct heat away from brakes for superior heat transfer efficiency. Running at lower temperatures means the Webb Vortex® Unlimited performs better than standard drums and can last up to 25% longer.

Brake Drums: Obtaining Maximum Service Life and Determining When to Replace

The following procedures suggested by Webb Wheel are good practices for obtaining maximum safety and service and to determine when replacement brake drums are required:

Clean and inspect the brake drums whenever relining the brakes. The brake drum is suitable for continued service if it passes the following checks

- The brake surface should be free from heavy heat checks (see Fig 1) or scoring, cracks, and martensitic spots (slightly raised dark spots) (see Fig 2).
- The brake surface diameter should be within the maximum diameter cast or stamped on the drum (see Fig 3)
- The mounting holes and pilot must be round and true
- The mounting surface must be clean and flat

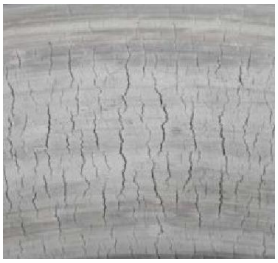

Fig 1
Heavy heat checking

Fig 2
Hot spotting

Fig 3
Cast in max. diameter

It may be desirable to turn or resurface the brake surface to remove small heat checks or other surface defects resulting from normal use. Conditions and procedures for this activity will be covered in a future issue of the Webb OE Newsletter.

Replacement of the brake drum is REQUIRED if ANY of the following conditions exist

- The brake drum is cracked
- The brake surface has heavy heat check
- The brake surface is grooved or worn beyond the maximum diameter
- The backing plate is cracked
- The bolt holes are elongated
- The brake drum is known to have been severely overheated
- The brake drum is out of round

Brake drums should be replaced in pairs to achieve the same braking power on both wheels and maintain an even braking load on the axle. Failure to replace both brake drums on the axle will result in uneven braking load on the axle and may significantly reduce the performance, service life and/or safety of your vehicle

When selecting a Webb replacement brake drum, refer to the Webb Brake Drum Catalog to determine the proper replacement drum.

Access Webb Technical Service Bulletin GUIDELINES FOR BRAKE DRUM REPLACEMENT

Source: Webb Wheel Installation, Service and Safety Instruction Manual