



APTA Webinar Series: Transit Bus Air Control System

Presented by APTA Bus Technical Maintenance Committee

July 9, 2020

APTA Bus Technical Maintenance Committee Webinars

2020 Webinar Series

- 3/31/2020 Basic Electrical Troubleshooting
- 5/14/2020 Transit Bus Air Supply System
- Today Air Control System
- Next Foundation Brake System

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- All attendees are muted
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At the conclusion of this webinar, you will be able to:

- 1. Understand the operation of the air control system
- 2. Demonstrate preventive maintenance practices
- 3. Demonstrate common diagnostic practices



- The information on this webinar is to be used in conjunction with the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) and air brake parts manufacturer service manuals.
- Proper tools and safety equipment must always be used when working on brake systems.



Air Brake System





System Layout

Air brake system is comprised of three sub systems:

•Air Supply System

•Air Control System

•Foundation Brake System



Typical Air System Schematic



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Air Tubing and Line Colors

- Green Supply and primary brake system
- Red Secondary brake system
- Brown Parking, Emergency, Spring Brakes
- Yellow Governor control circuit
- Black Accessory system, suspension system on some buses
- Blue Suspension system some buses



Air Control System

Control system regulates the pressure and flow of compressed air from the supply system and is comprised of:

Application Valve

Electric Pneumatic Valves

Relay Valves

Double Check Valves

Quick Release Valves

Push Pull Valves



Air Control System Valves

Control System:

- Air valves are pressure regulators
- Air valves control the flow of air used to operate system components
- Industrial Standards Organization (ISO) identification of ports and controls
- Four or more ports or controls
- Ports or controls identified by numbers or wording



Brake Relay Valve Ports

- #1 Supply port -- Air from system reservoir is supplied to this port
- #2 Delivery port -- Output which provides regulated supply pressure to operate a component or system
- #3 Exhaust port -- Delivery line air pressure exhaust
- #4 Service Port Control or Signal pressure that operates the valve and regulates the delivery line pressure.



Brake Relay Valves

R14 Air Brake Valve Bottom View



R14 Air Brake Valve Bottom View





Tag or washer contains valve type and crack pressure information

Control System

All air valves operate in 3 modes:

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	MODE	EXHAUST VALVE	INLET VALVE
	APPLIED	CLOSED	OPEN
	HOLD / BALANCE	CLOSED	CLOSED
ATION N	RELEASED	OPEN	CLOSED

Control System



Control System Air Valve Diagnostics When air is suspected of leaking from the valve exhaust port, perform the following simple diagnostic procedures:

- Build air pressure to governor cut-out pressure
- Check to see if valve is leaking air from the exhaust port



Control System Air Valve Diagnostics

• If air is leaking from the exhaust port, remove the delivery line

 If valve stops leaking, check delivery line for air leakage
Remember, when the valve is in the released position, the delivery line is open to exhaust



Control System Air Valve Diagnostics





Delivery Line Removed



Control System Air Valve Diagnostics If valve continues to leak after delivery line is removed,

- Remove control line and see if leak stops
- If leak stops, check control line for air leakage



Control System Air Valve Diagnostics

Primary Control / Signal Line Removed



AMERICAN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION Secondary Control / Signal Line Removed



Control System Air Valve Diagnostics

Parking Control / Signal Line



PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION Anti- Compounding Line Removed

ight :

Air Valve Diagnostics Control System

If valve continues to leak with delivery and control lines removed,

- •The problem is a bad valve
- The value is only connected to supply line and isolated from the rest of the system

•Replace the valve



Air Valve Replacement

Never put a valve in a vise or clamp to install fittings

•Clamping the valve in a vise may cause the valve to become distorted and stick or bind



Application Valve

Floor mounted dual brake valve with two separate supply and delivery circuits for primary and secondary brake circuits

- •Primary circuit is operated mechanically by pressure on the pedal
- •Secondary circuit is operated by air pressure from the primary circuit





Application Valve

E 6 valve has a rubber graduated spring at the top for greater sensitivity



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Hold:

Pressure working on the bottom of the primary piston causes the piston to move upward Rear against the graduating spring closing the inlet valve.





Hold:

Pressure working on the bottom of the primary piston causes the piston to move upward Rear against the graduating spring closing the inlet valve.

















Bendix BVA-85 Interlock

Bendix BVA-85 Interlock

- Typically used with E-6 treadle valve
- Mounted between treadle valve plate and treadle valve
- Interlock is applied to all axles
- Eliminates need for downstream quick release and double check valves





Bendix BVA-85 Interlock







Brake Valve Actuator (BVA) Operation

The brake valve actuator on the E-6 brake valve receives air pressure from the pressure reducing valve and the brake interlock solenoid valve and applies the service brakes on all the axles. This action will mimic a foot application of the brake treadle and will apply front, rear, and center service brakes.

Note: The brake treadle will fall away from the operator's foot when the interlocks apply.

Note: Releasing the interlocks will require the vehicle operator to push through the interlock application. Applying sufficient pressure on the treadle to exceed interlock pressure by 10 PSI will release the interlocks and the treadle will return to its normal position.

Note: The BVA will apply 70-71% of the applied pressure to the BVA valve itself, due to internal piston design of the BVA.





Application Valve Maintenance

APTA recently published recommended *Transit Bus Brake Valve Treadle Assembly Maintenance* BTS-BC-RP-008-20

- Inspect, clean, lube, and replace worn components
- Clean every three months, 25,000 miles, or 900 operating hours







Application Valve

Maintenance

Inspect for worn, corroded and damaged Treadle Assembly components















Application Valve Maintenance



- Clean lubricate and assemble
- Test to make sure there are no air leaks, pedal moves freely and returns to normal position









R-12DC



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- Speeds up application and release of the brakes
- Remote controlled brake valve that delivers or releases air to the chambers in response to the control air delivered to it from the application valve
- Usually mounted in close proximity to the brake chambers it operates



R-14



R-12 Relay Valve



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Crack Pressures Available: 4 PSI, 5.5 PSI, 7.5 PSI.





















Air Brake Relay Valves

R12DC Air Brake Valve

R14 Air Brake Valve







R-12 R-12DC and R-14 Relay Valves Valve bodies are identical

- The R-14 valve differs from the R-12DC valve in that it incorporates a quick release and anti-compounding feature
- The R-14 valve's anti-compound feature allows it to be conveniently used as either a service or spring brake relay valve
- R-12DC biased double check valve ensures primary service signal pressure controls the valve



R-12DC Relay Valve

- Allows either primary or secondary control pressure to operate the rear brakes
- Biased double check valve ensures primary service signal pressure controls the valve
- In the event of a loss of the primary control line, the secondary control line supplies the pressure to operates the valve






































R12P Relay Valve





AMERICAN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION R12P Relay Valves are typically used on 60 Ft. Articulated buses

R12P Relay Valve



R12P mounted on front coach body, LS rear 60Ft New Flyer bus



- Whenever control air must travel a long distance, a pilot relay valve is used.
- The R12P valve is used to control 2 relay valves simultaneously without incurring any additional crack pressure.





R12P Relay Valve Operation (Charging)

- Reservoir air enters the R-12P supply port and becomes active upon the inlet/exhaust valve and at the same time, passes through the R-12P body channel to the load piston
- Supply air builds simultaneously and equally underneath the inlet/exhaust valve and above the load piston
- While supply pressure continues to hold the inlet/exhaust valve against its seat, it also moves the load piston into contact with the relay piston
- Supply air builds to governor cut-out and the inlet/exhaust valve remains closed ANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION

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R12P Relay Valve Operation (Normal Application)

- Normal" means the control signal is applied rapidly enough to build up pressure on the relay piston and "open" the inlet valve, causing the R-12P to react like a relay valve
- The relay piston opens the inlet, allowing supply air to flow out the delivery port to the next valve in the system





R12P Relay Valve Operation (Balance) EQUALIZING ORIFICE LOAN

- Air pressure being delivered by the open inlet valve is also effective underneath the R-12P relay piston
- When air pressure beneath the piston approaches control pressure on top of the piston, the piston and inlet valve lift together and close the inlet valve
- The exhaust remains closed, and the valve achieves "force balance"





R12P Relay Valve Operation (Rapid Exhaust)

- Air above the relay piston travels back out the control port to be exhausted
- With the lack of air pressure above the piston, air pressure below lifts the piston, closing the inlet and opening the exhaust
- Delivery air then exhausts to atmosphere





R12P Relay Valve Operation (Slow Application)

- This figure shows the control signal passing through the valve without causing piston movement
- The air is passing through the relay piston's equalizing orifice, directly through the valve and out the delivery port to the next valve in the air system
- This situation occurs if air pressure build-up is slow and the pressure above the relay piston is not strong enough to open the valve
- This condition exists during very slow service brake applications





R12P Relay Valve Operation (Loss of Supply Air)

- With no supply air, the reserve spring is strong enough to hold the relay piston on the exhaust seat, but is not strong enough to overcome the force of the inlet/exhaust valve spring
- So both inlet and exhaust valves are closed





Quick Release Valve

The function of the quick release valve is to speed up the exhaust of air from the air chambers





Quick Release Valve

The function of the quick release valve is to speed up the exhaust of air from the air chambers

It is mounted close to the chambers or system it serves

In its standard configuration, the value is designed to deliver within 1 psi of control pressure to the controlled device



Quick Release Valve







QR-1 Quick Release Valve

Porting consists of one supply port, two delivery ports and one exhaust port

When a brake application is made, air pressure enters the supply port; the diaphragm moves down, sealing the exhaust At the same time, air pressure forces the edges of the diaphragm down and air flows out the delivery





QR-1 Quick Release Valve

When supply and delivery pressure are equal the valve is in the balanced position

In the balanced position the diaphragm remains down, sealing the exhaust port







QR-1 Quick Release Valve

During brake release, the exhaust port is still sealed by the center portion of the diaphragm when the supply air is released

The air pressure above the diaphragm is released back through the brake valve exhaust

Air pressure beneath the diaphragm forces the diaphragm to rise, opening the exhaust, allowing delivery air to exhaust







PP-1 Push Pull Valve

The PP-1 valve is a push-pull manually operated on-off air control valve primarily used to supply air pressure for the release of the parking brake

Most are pressure sensitive, so that they will automatically move from the applied to the exhaust position as supply pressure is reduced to a certain minimum, depending on the spring installed





















Emergency Release Valve

The RD-3 valve is commonly used as an emergency release valve, supplying air pressure to the spring brakes from an accessory or dedicated reservoir in the event the primary and secondary brake system reservoirs loose air pressure





Emergency Release Valve



The RD-3 valve differs slightly from the PP-1 valve in that it normally remains in the exhaust position and requires a constant manual force to hold it in the applied position





Emergency Release Valve





Although the RD-3 and the PP-1 valves look similar, the base of the valves are different and are not interchangeable. The RD-3 base has a raised seat to prevent it from remaining in the applied position



Ridge RD-3

Double Check Valve

- Double check valves are used in an air brake system to direct a flow of air into a common line from either of two sources
- Test by individually draining each supply side pressure





Double Check Valve

Double check valves are designed to never impede the flow or back flow of air either the apply or exhaust mode

Double check valves are commonly used in brake interlock, spring brake, and other air system operations

Operating performance is optimized when mounted in the horizontal position



Double Check Valve

As air pressure enters either end of the double check valve, the moving shuttle responds to the pressure and seals the opposite port assuming it is at a lower pressure level then the other and air flows out the delivery port



The position of the shuttle will reverse if pressure levels are reversed












Spring Brake Valve





The SR-1 spring brake valve is used in dual or "split" air brake systems equipped with spring brake actuators

The function of the SR-1 valve is to supply a specific, limited hold-off pressure to the spring brakes, and in the event of loss of No. 1 service air pressure, to modulate the spring brakes through the use of the service brake valve

Spring Brake Valve

The SR-1 spring brake valve regulates spring brake hold off pressure between 95 and 100 psi in normal operation With the primary reservoir pressure

above 55 psi, the SR-1 operates as a spring brake hold off pressure regulator to prevent excessive pressure from entering and damaging the spring brake chamber

SR-1 SPRING BRAKE VALVE



















Spring Brake Valve

With the loss of primary brake reservoir pressure, the SR-1 spring brake valve, acting on application pressure from the secondary brake system, will exhaust pressure from the spring brake chamber in direct proportion to application pressure and apply the rear brakes with spring force

Note: A 20 psi brake application will usually exhaust 40 psi hold off pressure









Spring Brake Modulation Valve

The SR-7 spring brake modulating valve operates similar to the SR-1 but is used in place of the SR-1 and R-14 valve combination

The SR-7 spring brake modulating valve is used in conjunction with a dual air brake system and spring brake actuator and performs the following functions:





Spring Brake Modulation Valve

Provides a rapid application of the spring brake actuator when parking

Modulates the spring brake actuator application using the dual brake valve should a primary failure occur in the service brake system

Prevents compounding of service and spring forces





- The Dual Relay Valve is a special purpose, multifunction relay valve typically used on articulated vehicles with three or more axles
- Normally mounted in close proximity to the valves and chambers served
- Its function is to speed the application and release of control air pressure to the service brake relay valve(s) on the rear most axles of the bus





The Dual Relay Valve is a pilot relay valve that responds to the control air delivered to it from both circuits of the foot brake valve.

The Dual Relay Valve is controlled independently by the front (secondary) and mid (primary) delivery circuits of the dual circuit foot brake valve.



The Dual Relay Valve is supplied air from the rear axles service reservoir that is isolated from the other service reservoirs forming a third service brake circuit on the vehicle.

With the addition of a third brake circuit the vehicle will maintain braking on at least two axles in the event of a single service system malfunction. In systems where this valve is used, the brake circuits are designated as Front (steering) Axle, Mid-Axle and Rear Axle.





Air System Layout Schematic



Each service reservoir is isolated and is protected from loss of air in other service reservoirs. The front and mid-axle service reservoirs supply air directly to the secondary and primary circuits of the foot brake valve, as well as antilock and traction components for their respective circuits.



The rear axle service reservoir supplies air to the Dual Relay Valve, as well as the rear axle service antilock relay and traction components.

System Normal

With the system normal and air pressure available in all service reservoirs, brake application pressure is transmitted from the primary and secondary circuits of the foot brake valve.

Application pressure is transmitted simultaneously to the front and mid-axle brakes and to the primary and secondary control ports of the Dual Relay Valve. The Dual Relay Valve applies or releases the rear axle brakes in direct proportion to the control signals received from the foot brake valve. The brake on each axle are applied using pressure from their dedicated respective reservoirs.





Air System Layout Schematic



Loss of Front Axle Service Reservoir

A service application made with a loss of air in the secondary circuit results in a no or low application of the front axle brakes.



TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION Air pressure from the primary circuit of the foot brake valve applies the mid-axle brakes and enters the primary control port of the Dual Relay Valve.

The Dual Relay Valve responds to primary control and applies the rear axle brakes. Brake release occurs when foot brake valve pressure is removed.

Loss of Mid-Axle Service Reservoir

A service application made with a loss of air in the primary circuit results in a no or low application of the mid-axle brakes.



Air pressure from the secondary circuit of the foot brake valve applies the front axle brakes and enters the secondary control port of the Dual Relay Valve.

The Dual Relay Valve responds to secondary control and applies the rear axle brakes.



Brake release occurs when foot brake valve pressure is removed.

Loss of Rear Axle Service Reservoir

With a loss of rear axle service pressure, the front and mid-axle brakes will be applied by the foot brake valve.



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Primary and secondary control pressure is received by the Dual Relay Valve. However, a no or low application of the rear brakes will occur due to a loss of pressure in the rear service reservoir, Front and mid-axle brakes will be applied by the treadle valve

Automatic Traction Control (ATC)

ATC (Automatic Traction Control) is an option to ABS that functions automatically to help the driver utilize the available traction for improved start-ability and vehicle stability on slippery surfaces. If one drive wheel starts to spin, the ATC valve directs air pressure through the appropriate modulator valve, to apply the brakes on the spinning wheel. This transfers engine torque to the nonspinning drive wheel.

Engine control (torque reduction signal from ABS ECU to Engine ECU) will not occur unless both drive wheels are spinning or a single spinning drive wheel exceeds a threshold value.









Related APTA Standards APTA STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM APTA 815-8C-RP-008-20

APTA BTS-BC-RP-006-17

APTA STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM RECOMMENDED PRACTICE hublished: January 26, 2017 APTA Bus Brake Working Group American Public Transportation Association 1300 I Street, NW, Suite 1200 East, Washington, DC 20006

Transit Bus Air Disc Brake Operation and Wheels-On Inspection

Abstract: This document establishes a recommended practice for wheels on transit bus frontivear axle APRIMIC: 1018 document estantistics a recommended practice for writers on transmous trum rear of preumatic due brake inspection. Individual operating agencies should modify these guidelines to

accommodate their specific equipment and mode of operation. Keywords: ABS tone ting, boot, bridge, bushing, caliper, carrier, disc, disc brake maintenance, hub, pads, netypercens: Anso some ring, oxist, orisige, putting, camper, camer, one, due trace manifestance, tuth, j pin, rotor, potentiometers, retaining strap, seal, slide pins, spring clips wheel seals, torque plate, wear

Summary: This Recommended Practice provides guidelines for performing wheels-on brake maintenance on

Summary: This Recommender Practice provides guidennes for performing wheets-on trace manners a bus with air disc brakes, including impection and troubleshooting. This document is to be used in a rous with air arse trakes, menuting inspection and treasuremoting. This accument is to be used in conjunction with the manufacture's service manual. It is recommended that all components be replaced conjunction with the manufacturer's service manual. It is recommensed that an components or reparced equally on both wheel ends of the axle. Failure to do so may affect braking performance. The following recommended practices and guidelines assume that the end users have sufficient skills and knowledge to recommended practices and gamemes assume that the end users have sufficient skins and knowledge to repair and maintain the related systems at a journeyman level. This must include a fluent understanding of repair and maintain the retated systems as a journeymain tevel. This must metude a futurel understanding of safe shop working practices, not only for the agency but also OSHA/CCOHS provincial federal-state and sate snop working practices, not only for the agency bit and UNFIAUAL-THS pro-mixin-reastin-same and local safety standards. A familiarity with applicable industries, component/system suppliers and vehicle

manufacturers is also assumed.

Scope and purpose: This Recommended Practice provides guidelines for visual inspection of the typical secone son purputer: van accommenter rractice provates putoennes ner visual mapertare of ner vipical heavy-duty transit bas at disc brake. The components may be different than pictured, and some procedures heavy-outry transit bus air dive terate. The components may be interest than pertured, and some procedures will vary. The purpose of this document is to provide a uniform standard for heavy-daty transit bus air disc brake inspection and troubleshooting.

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RECOMMENDED PRACTICE American Public Transportation Association / 1300 / Street, NW, Solie 1200 East, Weshington, DC 20006

> APTA BTS-BC-RP-001-05, Rev. 1 RECOMMENDED PRACTICE First Published: May 15, 2005 First Revision: Feb 4, 2020 American Public Transportation Association 1300 | Street. NW. Suite 1200 East. Washington, DC 20006 Bus Brake & Chassis Working Group

Transit Bus In-Service Brake System Performance Testing

Published: February 4, 2020 Bus Brake & Chassis Working Group

Abstract: This Recommended Practice provides guidelines for testing transit bus air brake system performance.

Keywords: brake performance, brakes, bus brake, deceleration, stopping, transit bus, performance-based brake testers (PBBT)

Summary: This document establishes a recommended practice for transit bus in-service brake performance testing. Individual operating agencies may modify these guidelines to accommodate their specific equipment and mode of operation. Test results must meet or exceed federal, state or other local regulatory agency requirements if different from the recommendations outlined in this document. This document assumes the end users have sufficient skills and knowledge to repair and maintain the related systems at a journeyman level. These skills and knowledge must also include a fluent understanding of safe shop working practices. not only for the agency but also OSHA/CCOHS/provincial/federal/state and local safety standards. A familiarity with applicable industries, component/system suppliers, and vehicle manufacturers is also assumed

Scope and purpose: This Recommended Practice provides system performance testing guidelines for heavyduty transit buses equipped with air brakes. It covers only the braking force and deceleration aspects of brake testing. The purpose of this Recommended Practice is to provide a uniform method and criteria for testing and verification of transit bus brake system performance.

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- APTA BTS-BC-RP-008-20: Transit **Bus Brake Valve Treadle** Assembly Maintenance
- APTA BTS-BC-RP-006-17: Transit Bus Air Disc Brake Operation and Wheels On Inspection
- APTA BTS-BC-RP-001-05 Rev. 1: Transit Bus In-Service Brake System Performance Testing

For additional resources visit: https://www.apta.com/researchtechnicalresources/standards/bus-transitsystems-standards-program/

The APTA Bus Technical Maintenance Committee would like to thank you for joining our Webinar.

Please join us for the next Webinar in the series which will cover the Foundation Brake System.

Keep an eye out for a survey on today's webinar!

Pictures, drawings and technical information courtesy of Custom Training Aids, LA Metro, Bendix, New Flyer, Haldex, MAN, ZF, Meritor, Knorr-Bremse, MGM Brakes, Jacobs, Link Engineering, Expello, Power Brake, and other members of the APTA Brake and Chassis Work Group

