

Wheels: A recent e-mail says, “We have a 1995 Pontiac Transport with 50,000 miles on it. During the last two years we’ve had two reoccurring problems that do not occur at the same time.

- a. The instrument panel brake light comes on and goes off in a purely random way. It usually is on for less than a minute.
- b. The front windshield wipers often will not operate.

There does not appear to be any pattern for the problems based on weather, speed, distance traveled, or operator. Our dealer cannot repair the problems because we cannot get the problems to occur when we are there. How do we go about getting these problems resolved?”

Wheels: I will give you some thoughts as to what you could look for that may be the cause of your concerns.

1. The red brake warning light on the dash can come on if the brake fluid is a little low. I have had this happen to me and the light would come on during cornering or in cold weather when the brake fluid is cold. The light can also be triggered by the parking brake or if there is a hydraulic system fault.
2. The wiper problem is likely the brush plate on the end of the wiper motor. Sometimes this plate has to be tapped so it makes a better ground connection. The wiper motor may have to be replaced. This is not an easy job on this vehicle!

