### Automotive Chassis Systems 7th Edition

**Chapter 7 Brake Fluid & Lines**

**Opening Your Class**

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<th>KEY ELEMENT</th>
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<td><strong>Introduce Content</strong></td>
<td>This course or class covers operation and service of <em>Automotive Chassis Systems</em>. It correlates material to task lists specified by ASE and NATEF.</td>
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<td><strong>Motivate Learners</strong></td>
<td>Explain how the knowledge of how something works translates into the ability to use that knowledge to figure why the engine does not work correctly and how this saves diagnosis time, which translates into more money.</td>
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**State the learning objectives for the chapter or course you are about to cover and explain this is what they should be able to do as a result of attending this session or class.**

1. Discuss the purpose and function of brake fluids.
2. Describe brake service procedures and precautions.
3. Discuss the types of rubber that are used in brake system components.
4. Discuss the use of brake lines.

*This chapter will help prepare for ASE Brakes (A5) certification test Sub-Repair Area “A” Hydraulics*

**Establish the Mood or Climate** | Provide a WELCOME, Avoid put downs and bad jokes. |
**Complete Essentials** | Restrooms, breaks, registration, tests, etc. |
**Clarify and Establish Knowledge Base** | Do a round robin of the class by going around the room and having each student give their backgrounds, years of experience, family, hobbies, career goals, or anything they want to share. |

**NOTE:** This lesson plan is based on Automotive Chassis Systems 7th Edition Chapter Images found on Jim’s website @ *www.jameshalderman.com*  
**LINK CHP 7:** [Chapter Images](#)
1. SLIDE 1 CH07 BRAKE FLUID & LINES

Check for ADDITIONAL VIDEOS & ANIMATIONS @ http://www.jameshalderman.com/
WEB SITE IS CONSTANTLY UPDATED

Videos

At the beginning of this class, you can download the crossword puzzle & Word Search from the links below to familiarize your class with the terms in this chapter & then discuss them

Crossword Puzzle (Microsoft Word) (PDF)
Word Search Puzzle (Microsoft Word) (PDF)

2. SLIDE 2 EXPLAIN Figure 7-1 Brake fluid can absorb moisture from the air even through plastic, so many experts recommend that brake fluid be purchased in metal containers, if possible.

3. SLIDE 3 EXPLAIN Figure 7-2 Brake fluid absorbs moisture from the air at the rate of about 2% per year. As the brake fluid absorbs water, its boiling temperature decreases.

DISCUSSION: DISCUSS brake fluids and their chemical characteristics. What must all brake fluids have in common? Ask students to discuss brake fluid specifications. What do sae dot specification standards signify? (have students refer to federal motor vehicle STANDARD 116 covering all fluids for use in hydraulic brake systems of motor vehicles, brake fluid containers, and brake fluid labeling issue

4. SLIDE 4 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7.3 This Ford Escape requires DOT 4 as stated on the cap of the master cylinder

5. SLIDE 5 EXPLAIN Figure 7-4 DOT 5 brake fluid is used mostly in motorcycles because if spilled, it will not hurt painted surfaces.

6. SLIDE 6 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7-5 Both rubber sealing cups were exactly same size. Cup on left was exposed to mineral oil. Notice how the seal greatly expanded
**DISCUSSION:** ask students to discuss performance characteristics and uses of DOT 3 brake fluid. Why is it the most commonly used brake fluid? Why is it important to keep DOT 3 brake fluid in a sealed container? Ask students to talk about performance characteristics and uses of DOT 4 brake fluid? What differentiates it from DOT 3 brake fluid, and why does it cost more? Why is it important to change brake fluid on a vehicle equipped with ABS every 30,000 miles (48,000 km)? Ask students to discuss performance characteristics and uses of DOT 5.1 brake fluid. What types of vehicles might use DOT 5.1 fluid?

**DISCUSSION:** ASK STUDENTS TO TALK ABOUT WHY THEY SHOULD NEVER USE MINERAL OIL IN A BRAKE SYSTEM DESIGNED FOR DOT BRAKE FLUIDS. ASK STUDENTS TO DISCUSS CHARACTERISTICS & USES OF DOT 5 BRAKE FLUID. WHAT ARE ADVANTAGES OF SILICONE-BASED BRAKE FLUIDS? WHAT ARE DISADVANTAGES?

7. **SLIDE 7 EXPLAIN** Figure 7-6 If brake fluid is black in color, it should be replaced.

8. **SLIDE 8 EXPLAIN** Figure 7-7 (a) brake fluid test strip is being used to test the condition of the brake fluid.

9. **SLIDE 9 EXPLAIN** Figure 7-7 (b) The color of test strip is then compared with a chart on package, which indicates the condition and if fluid should be replaced.

10. **SLIDE 10 EXPLAIN** Figure 7-8 electronic tester that measures boiling temperature of the brake fluid is useful to help determine if the brake fluid needs to be replaced.

**DEMONSTRATION:** SHOW STUDENTS HOW TO USE BRAKE FLUID TEST STRIP. SHOW HOW TO USE BRAKE FLUID TESTER & DISCUSS RESULTS.

**ON-VEHICLE NATEF TASK BRAKE FLUID USAGE AND TEST FOR CONTAMINATION**

**DISCUSSION:** ASK STUDENTS TO DISCUSS BRAKE FLUID SERVICING PROCEDURES. WHAT PRECAUTIONS SHOULD THEY TAKE TO PREVENT CONTAMINATION OF BRAKE FLUID?
11. **SLIDE 11 EXPLAIN** Figure 7-9  The master cylinder piston seals are usually constructed from EPDM rubber, and the diaphragm of the vacuum power brake booster is usually made from SBR.

12. **SLIDE 12 EXPLAIN** Figure 7-10  Cross-sectional view of a typical drum brake wheel cylinder. Most wheel cylinder boots and cups are either SBR or EPDM rubber.

13. **SLIDE 13 EXPLAIN** Figure 7-11  Exploded view of a typical disc brake caliper. Both the caliper seal and dust boot are constructed of EPDM rubber.

**DEMONSTRATION:** SHOW STUDENTS THE EPDM RUBBER PARTS FOUND IN MASTER CYLINDER, DRUM BRAKE WHEEL CYLINDER, AND DISC BRAKE CALIPER AND DISCUSS THE EFFECT OF BRAKE FLUID ON THESE COMPONENTS.

**DISCUSSION:** ASK STUDENTS TO TALK ABOUT THE RUBBER COMPONENTS FOUND IN BRAKING SYSTEMS, INCLUDING THE MASTER CYLINDER AND DISC AND DRUM BRAKE ASSEMBLIES. HOW MIGHT THESE BE AFFECTED BY PROLONGED EXPOSURE TO BRAKE FLUID?

14. **SLIDE 14 EXPLAIN** Figure 7-12  Steel brake tubing is double-walled for strength and plated for corrosion resistance.

15. **SLIDE 15 EXPLAIN** FIGURE 7.13  The rust prone states are areas where snow and the use of salt contribute to the brake line rust.

16. **SLIDE 16 EXPLAIN** FIGURE 7.14  Because of the slight difference in flare angle, double-flare fitting seals cause a wedging action.

17. **SLIDE 17 EXPLAIN** Figure 7-15  ISO fitting, also called a bubble or ball-type flare.

18. **SLIDE 18 EXPLAIN** FIGURE 7–16A  Double flaring the end of a brake line. Clamp the line at the correct height above the surface of the clamping tool using the shoulder of the insert as a gauge.

19. **SLIDE 19 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7.16B** Double flaring the
end of a brake line. The insert is pressed into the end of the tubing. This creates the first bend.

20. **SLIDE 20 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7.16C** Double flaring the end of a brake line. Remove the insert and use the pointed tool to complete the overlap double flare.

21. **SLIDE 21 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7.16D** Double flaring the end of a brake line. The completed operation as it appears while still in the clamp.

22. **SLIDE 22 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7.17A** Making an ISO flare requires a special tool. Select the proper size forming mandrel.

23. **SLIDE 23 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7.17B** Making an ISO flare requires a special tool. Clamp the tubing flush with the split die and place the mandrel into the tool.

24. **SLIDE 24 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7.17C** Making an ISO flare requires a special tool. Thread the tool handle in until the mandrel pilot seats into the tubing.

25. **SLIDE 25 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7.17D** Making an ISO flare requires a special tool. Close the tool valve and pump the handle until the mandrel seats in the die.


**DEMONSTRATION:** Show students the double-walled steel brake lines connecting the master cylinder to each brake, and discuss how their construction is designed to carry brake fluid while providing maximum durability.

**DEMONSTRATION:** Show double-flare & ISO brake line ends, & talk about their purpose & function. Ask students to talk about why replacement brake lines must be same diameter as originals. Show how to flare end of brake line by using double-lap flare fitting. After cutting or flaring brake lines, use dry shop air to blow out contaminates.
HANDS-ON TASK: HAVE STUDENTS DOUBLE-LAP FLARE A BRAKE LINE. USE A SMALL DIAMETER LINE FIRST THAN A LARGER DIAMETER SO THEY CAN SEE THE DIFFERENCE

DEMONSTRATION: SHOW STUDENTS HOW TO FLARE THE END OF A BRAKE LINE BY USING AN ISO FITTING

HANDS-ON TASK: HAVE STUDENTS ISO FLARE A BRAKE LINE. USE A SMALL DIAMETER LINE FIRST THAN A LARGER DIAMETER SO THEY CAN SEE THE DIFFERENCE.

27. SLIDE 27 EXPLAIN Figure 7-18 The coils in the brake line help prevent cracks caused by vibration.

28. SLIDE 28 EXPLAIN Figure 7-19 Armored brake line is usually used in the location where the line may be exposed to rock or road debris damage. Even armored brake line can leak and a visual inspection is an important part of any brake service.

29. SLIDE 29 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7–20 A tube bender being used to bend a brake line.

30. SLIDE 30 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7.21 A tubing cutter is the preferred tool to use to cut brake line because it leaves a clean edge.

31. SLIDE 31 EXPLAIN Figure 7-22 Flexible brake hoses are used between frame or body of vehicle and the wheel brakes. Because of suspension and/or steering movement, these flexible brake lines must be strong enough to handle high brake fluid pressures, yet remain flexible. Note that this flexible brake hose is further protected against road debris with a plastic conduit covering.

32. SLIDE 32 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7.23A Typical flexible brake hose showing multiple layers of rubber and fabric.

33. SLIDE 33 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7.23B The inside diameter (ID) is printed on the hose (3 mm).

34. SLIDE 34 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7.24 Typical flexible brake hose faults. Many faults cannot be seen, yet can cause brakes to remain applied after brake pedal is released.

35. SLIDE 35 EXPLAIN FIGURE 7.25 Flexible brake hose should be carefully inspected for cuts or other damage, especially near sections where the brake hose is attached to the vehicle.
Whenever disconnecting or tightening a brake line, always use the correct size flare-nut wrench. A flare-nut wrench is also called a tube-nut wrench or a line wrench.

Typical flexible brake hose showing the multiple layers of rubber and fabric. (b) Inside diameter (ID) printed on hose (3 mm).

Typical flexible brake hose faults. Many faults cannot be seen, yet can cause brakes to remain applied after brake pedal is released.

Flexible brake hose should be carefully inspected for cuts or other damage, especially near sections where brake hose is attached to vehicle. Notice crack & cut hose next to mounting bracket.