



LIPPERT
COMPONENTS

AXLE GREASE / BRAKE CONTAMINATION FAQ

TI-215

AXLES AND SUSPENSION

- Q.** Does the appearance of grease always cause brake contamination?
- A.** No. Sometimes the exterior of a hub may not be completely wiped clean after the manufacturing process, which in turn can result in the appearance of residual grease. Brake contamination occurs only if the braking components are saturated with excess grease.
- Q.** What causes excess grease to the point of contamination?
- A.** A leaking grease seal can cause excess grease to coat the braking components.
- A.** Improper disassembly of a hub can extract grease from the seal causing the braking components to be saturated.
- A.** Failure to properly clean and reassemble a hub can cause excess grease.
- A.** Failure to adhere strictly to service procedure of axle service can cause excess grease.
- A.** Use of a powered grease gun to fill the hub cavity can cause grease to get past the seal or push the seal out of the hub bore.
- Q.** I see grease residue on my wheel, what should I do?
- A.** It is normal to have a small residual amount of grease on the exterior of a new hub. Most of the time, simply wiping off the residual grease is an appropriate solution.
- A.** It is not normal for a hub to continue to weep grease after its initial installation. Excess grease can coat the brake pads, magnets and braking surfaces inside of the hub, causing brake contamination. If this occurs, there will be noticeable diminished braking capability.
- A.** If there is noticeable diminished braking capability or grease continues to weep, the hub should be checked by a qualified service provider.
- Q.** Should I pull the hub to check for excess grease?
- A.** Unless there is diminished braking capability or grease continues to appear, the hub should not be disassembled, as doing so may break the grease seal and cause brake contamination.
- A.** The process of pulling the hub apart can actually break the grease seal if not done very carefully. Any time a hub and braking components are opened, disassembled or otherwise tampered with, it is possible that grease will come out onto the spindle and may coat the brake pads, magnet and braking surfaces of the hub. If grease contaminates the brakes, there will be diminished braking capability.
- A.** As a result, it is recommended that the grease seals are replaced any time a hub is pulled. Concurrently, the spindle and inside of the hub should be wiped clean of grease using a commercial brake cleaner. Failure to do so may cause the brakes to become contaminated even after a new grease seal is installed.
- NOTE:** A hub should only be pulled by a qualified service provider.
- Q.** I feel reduced braking capability, what should I do?
- A.** Have your trailer inspected by a qualified local service center. Should the ability to brake and bring the vehicle to a safe stop over a reasonable distance be compromised, the hubs and brake assembly **MUST** be inspected for excess grease existing on the spindle area of the axle.
- A.** It is important that your service provider follows the precise instructions when performing routine maintenance to prevent grease contamination during any axle service that requires the hub to be opened.



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- Q.** How often should I service my axles?
- A.** Like all vehicles and machinery, regular maintenance is required and is of the utmost importance. Our Owner's Manual outlines standard maintenance schedules and inspection guides with illustrations for easy-to-follow instructions.
- A.** Axle service is required every 12 months or 36,000 miles, whichever occurs first. Additionally, brakes are to be properly adjusted every 3,000 miles.
- A.** It is important that your service provider follows the precise instructions when performing routine maintenance to prevent grease contamination during any axle service that requires the hub to be opened.

As a supplier of components to the RV industry, safety, education and customer satisfaction are our primary concerns. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (574) 537-8900 or by email at customerservice@lci1.com. Self-help tips, technical documents, product videos and a training class schedule are available at lci1.com or by downloading the MyLCI app.



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Follow proper safety practices. If in doubt, consult a professional RV technician.