

SAFETY RECALL ALERT



To: Mack Dealer Principals
Mack General Managers
Mack Service Managers
Mack Parts Managers

Bulletin: SRA-M12-02
Date: January 26, 2012
Replaces: N/A
Action Required? **YES**

From: Regulatory Affairs Department

Subject: Safety Recall, SC0363, Bendix® ATR-6™ Valve Action_012412

“Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC has determined that a potential defect related to motor vehicle safety exists in Bendix ATR-6™ valves manufactured between December 2, 2010 and January 18, 2012.”

Mack Trucks has issued a stop delivery of all new vehicles identified as having a suspect valve until the repairs are made.

The defect is that “in extremely cold conditions (at or below 0 degrees Fahrenheit / -18 degrees Celsius), internal leakage can potentially develop, resulting in pressure being delivered to the affected service brake circuit,” which “can cause intermittent or – in isolated cases – continuous brake application.” If this occurs, the brakes may inadvertently apply and cause overheating of the brakes potentially resulting in a vehicle fire or in inclement weather can potentially cause loss of control which may result in a vehicle crash.

Attached is a notice from Bendix providing additional detail on the problem and actions to be taken in the interim on customer vehicles. **Parts are not currently available to support replacement on all vehicles; however, an interim solution is available in limited quantities from Bendix. The interim solution will address the safety related defect, however some functionality will be lost for certain features (see highlighted section on pg 2 of the notice from Bendix). The interim solution will require additional repair once the final solution is available.** Please contact Bendix for further details.

Mack is one of at least three (3) heavy truck manufacturers affected by the Bendix recall.

This affects CHU, CXU and GU models. There are approximately 11 vehicles affected.

Dealer’s Responsibility:

The National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act and Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Act requires dealers to ensure that all new and used vehicles are free of safety defects and comply with all relevant safety standards at the time of delivery to the consumer.

Dealers should make their personnel aware of the safety recall. In the event that a dealer has a vehicle included in the safety recall in their inventory to be sold, the condition must be corrected before releasing it to a customer.

Release Schedule:

- Vehicle list is posted on the Trucks Dealer Portal
- An interim owner notice will be mailed on or before February 10, 2012 to inform the owners of the issue and provide the notice from Bendix
- Further instruction will be provided as soon as it becomes available from Bendix

Questions: “Contact your Bendix Account Manager. If their representative is unable to address your question, they will immediately forward your concern on to the appropriate Technical person “on call”. You may also elect to call the Bendix Tech Team at 1-800-AIR-BRAKE (option 2) for assistance. You can reach the Tech Team Monday – Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; and Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.”



The Bendix® ATR-6™ Valve Action – Understanding the Issue

What is the issue?

Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC has determined that a potential defect related to motor vehicle safety exists in Bendix® ATR-6™ valves manufactured between December 2, 2010 and January 18, 2012. Valves manufactured after January 18, 2012 have been identified with the OEMs to ensure that the potentially affected vehicles will not be delivered for sale until the vehicles are remedied as outlined below.

What types of vehicles are affected?

This issue potentially affects all vehicles utilizing the affected valves, including some, but not all, vehicles equipped with traction control or stability control systems. This issue *does not* include vehicles with a Bendix ATR-6 valve manufactured outside the indicated manufacture dates, that utilize the Bendix® AT-3™ remote traction valve or that utilize the Bendix® ATR-1™ or ATR-3™ traction relay valve.

What is the problem that caused the issue?

In extremely cold conditions (at or below 0 degrees Fahrenheit / -18 degrees Celsius), internal leakage can potentially develop, resulting in pressure being delivered to the affected service brake circuit.

What can happen because of this problem?

Pressure being delivered to the affected service brake circuit can cause intermittent or – in isolated cases – continuous brake application. During the brake application, ABS will still be operational and additional service braking is still available.

Please Note: *This issue could appear as a loss of engine power. The brake lights may or may not be illuminated and the brake application pressure gauge will not show any pressure.*

How did Bendix learn about this problem?

The issue was discovered during investigation of reports of intermittent brake applications occurring in mid-December 2011. Following inspection of complaint vehicles, Bendix replicated the event under laboratory conditions and verify the situation in the field. The Bendix investigation concluded the issue is the result of product change originating in December, 2010.

Does your potential recall notification mean there is any danger to public safety?

Federal law requires us to report any potential defect that presents an unreasonable risk to safe motor vehicle operation.

Have there been injuries as a result of this problem?

Bendix is unaware of any reports of injuries related to this product issue. The reports giving rise to the investigation involved driver complaints and thermal damage.

Understanding the Issue, *cont.*

My vehicle has experienced this type of issue. Is there a repair now available? Are there any special steps I should take until I can get my Bendix® ATR-6™-equipped vehicle repaired?

Your vehicle(s) should be serviced immediately if it is within the affected population and likely to be operated in extremely cold conditions as detailed earlier in this document.

A temporary remedy kit is now available. The kit part number is K070706. The Installation Instructions for the kit is S-1583. To obtain a kit(s), contact your OEM dealer or an authorized Bendix aftermarket outlet.

PLEASE NOTE: When the temporary remedy kit is installed, traction control and/or the vehicle's Bendix® ESP® and/or the Bendix® Wingman® ACB system (if installed on the vehicle) will be disabled until the permanent remedy is completed. The systems will be faulted and a diagnostic trouble code will be active. The Wingman ACB system will continue to provide following alerts and warnings; however, cruise control will be disabled. Regular service braking and ABS will continue to function normally.

A secondary, permanent remedy kit is forthcoming. This kit will fully address the subject issue and restore the vehicle's traction control and stability control system function. We will communicate more about this permanent solution shortly. The permanent remedy kit will need to be installed even on vehicles that have the temporary kit installed.

My vehicle has not experienced this type of issue. Are there any special steps I should take until I can get my ATR-6-equipped vehicle repaired?

Bring your vehicle(s) in for service as soon as possible – installing the temporary remedy kit as soon as possible is recommended if your vehicle is within the affected population and likely to be operated in extremely cold conditions as detailed earlier in this document. The vehicle will then require service a second time to install the permanent remedy kit when it is available, even though the temporary remedy kit has already been installed.

My vehicle was built prior to the affected date range, could I have an issue?

Vehicles that had a Bendix® ATR-1™, ATR-3™ or ATR-6™ valve replaced with a Bendix® ATR-6™ valve that was manufactured any time between December 2, 2010 and January 18, 2012 may be affected.

Inspect your vehicle(s) as soon as possible to 1) verify whether an ATR-6 valve was used to service the vehicle; and 2) to verify the date code on the valve. If an ATR-6 valve was used, examine the date code stamped into the valve to confirm whether it is a part of the impacted population. **The photo and instructions at the close of this document will help you complete the inspection.**

Affected ATR-6 valves, manufactured between December 2, 2010 and January 18, 2012 are identified by the date code stamped on the unit. The date code – featuring a “Month/Year” format – will appear in red or black type. An ATR-6 valve within the affected population displays a date code with:

- a. the first letter of “M” with the last two numerical digits of “10”;
- b. the last two numerical digits of “11”; and
- c. the first letter of “A” with the last two numerical digits of “12”.

If you confirm that the ATR-6 valve installed on your vehicle is a part of the affected group, bring your vehicle(s) in for service as soon as possible to install the temporary remedy. The valve will then require service a second time to install the permanent repair kit when it is available, even on vehicles that have the temporary kit installed.

My vehicle has had a Bendix® ATR-1™, ATR-3™ or ATR-6™ valve repair and replacement. Could I have an issue?

Vehicles that had a Bendix® ATR-1™, ATR-3™ or ATR-6™ valve replaced with a Bendix® ATR-6™ valve that was manufactured any time between December 2, 2010 and January 18, 2012 may be impacted.

Inspect your vehicle(s) as soon as possible to 1) verify whether an ATR-6 valve was used to service the vehicle; and 2) to verify the date code on the valve. If an ATR-6 valve was used, examine the date code stamped into the valve to confirm whether it is a part of the affected population. **The photo and instructions at the close of this document will help you complete the inspection.**

Impacted ATR-6 valves, manufactured between December 2, 2010 and January 18, 2012 are identified by the date code stamped on the unit. The date code – featuring a “Month/Year” format – will appear in red or black type. An ATR-6 valve within the affected population displays a date code with:

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If you confirm that the ATR-6 valve installed on your vehicle is a part of the impacted group, bring your vehicle(s) in for service as soon as possible to install the temporary remedy. The valve will then require service a second time to install the permanent repair kit when it is available, even on vehicles that have the temporary kit installed.

Who can I call if I have technical questions?

Contact your Bendix Account Manager. If our representative is unable to address your question, they will immediately forward your concern on to the appropriate Technical person “on call”. You may also elect to call the Bendix Tech Team at 1-800-AIR-BRAKE (option 2) for assistance. You can reach the Tech Team Monday – Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; and Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Verifying the Bendix® ATR-6™ Valve's Date Code.

Look for the date code that is pin-stamped (not cast) on the valve, following the part number. *(Remove the paint coating, if necessary, to read the code.)*

- The first field is the month (A=January, B=February, etc. — excluding the letter I — , so that J=September, and so on).
- The next two fields are the date (e.g. 04=4th day of the month)
- The next two fields are the year (e.g. 11=2011).
- The final code in the sequence is the Plant Code (T), in all cases.

Valves included in this field action were manufactured during the period:

December 2, 2010 through January 18, 2012
 That is, M0210T through A1812T.

Codes for December 2010	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>M</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> <td>T</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>02</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>through 31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <i>example: L0310T</i>	M			1	0	T		02						through 31				
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