TRAILER AXLE BRAKES

Assisted Quality Assurance with problem analysis of brake shoe tables that have been shifted on RABA produced shoes. Apparent tooling discrepancies have caused a rotation of the table toward the anchor end of the spider. The resultant relaxation of the retainer springs has not been found critical to the function of the brake on testing conducted to date; however, RABA produced shoes will not fit a stamped spider and therefore could cause problems at reline since part number is common.

AXLE HOUSINGS

Square Edge Housing Qualification - Samples have been received from Humboldt for test in their last attempt to get Ford approval on 5/16" wall heat-treated housings.

As-Forged Spindles - Engineering went on record this month that spindles purchased in the near net or forged to size conditions should meet our current semi-finished spindle dimensions and tolerances for bell end O.D., bell end concentricity, bell end perpendicularity, and inner bearing shoulder to end of bell end length. Supplier cannot currently hold our tolerances.

Wide Track Housing Capability Tests - Vertical testing was resumed this month. Product Engineering and Test Engineering must mutually agree on a new test program and timing to feel comfortable about increasing our ratings. Vertical testing indicates that we are very conservative with our derating system.

Transverse Torque Rod Bracket Failures - The bracket still needs to be redesigned; however, priorities do not permit.

Stud to Capscrew Conversion - Capscrew testing is being piggybacked with the output shaft testing on the Kenworth. Caps were installed with no Loctite and their position marked. Upon completion of test, caps will be checked for location and torque. Engineering will request this month that we install capscrews in the Godfrey fleet trucks we are monitoring. There are four trucks running 20,000 miles/month and in our garage every 50,000 miles. Product Engineering and Test Engineering must agree on a complete test program.

Nonheat-treated Axle Housing Material - We have received housings produced from 11/32" plate nonheat-treated. They will be tested this month. Tests are currently being run on Spanish 5/16" thick nonheat-treated 17 Series. Results have been excellent.