

**SERVICE MANUAL 440-1002**  
FOR



**ELECTRIC BRAKE ACTUATOR KIT**

This Document is Applicable to:

381-7020 ACTUATOR KIT W/ IN-CAB CONTROLLER\*\*  
381-7021 ACTUATOR KIT W/O IN-CAB CONTROLLER  
381-7022 CAB IN-CONTROLLER KIT\*\*  
496-166 BATTERY PACK

\*\* IMPORTANT: This actuator will not function correctly with any other brand or type of in-cab controller.

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## **Manual 440-1002 – Table of Contents**

<b><u>SECTION</u></b>	<b><u>DESCRIPTION</u></b>	<b><u>PAGE</u></b>
A.	Features	2
B.	Compatibility	2
C.	System Components	
	- Trailer Mounted Actuator	2
	- Trailer Mounted Brake Battery	3
	- Breakaway Switch	3
	- In-Cab Controller	3
D.	Important Safety Messages!	4
E.	Installation Instructions – Trailer Actuator	5
F.	Actuator Wiring	5
G.	Installation Check Procedures	6
H.	DOT Inspection Note	7
I.	Replacement Parts List / Mounting Dimensions	7
J.	Trouble Shooting Guide	8
K.	Carlisle Limited Warranty	9

### **A. Features:**

The Carlisle trailer brake actuator is a microprocessor-based 12 Volt DC system for use on single, two, and three axle trailers equipped with electric brakes. The CARLISLE actuator kit consists of a trailer mounted actuator, a “deep cycle”, 17 amp-hour trailer brake battery, an emergency breakaway switch, and an in-cab controller.

The CARLISLE actuator is unique in that it is totally trailer mounted. The actuator connects to the wiring on the trailer and does not require any modifications or additions to the wiring on the tow vehicle. Any vehicle that can connect to the trailer and power the trailer’s lights can make use of the CARLISLE trailer brake actuator. The in-cab controller is provided by a pendant that plugs into the cigarette lighter (not an accessory power receptacle) on the tow vehicle. No modifications to tow vehicle or to the tow vehicle wiring are required to make the in-cab controller operate correctly. Multiple vehicles can share a single in-cab controller by simply moving the in-cab controller from one vehicle to another. Additional in-cab control units are available and are compatible with all CARLISLE trailer brake actuators.

### **B: Compatibility:**

The CARLISLE trailer brake actuator should function properly so long as the towing vehicle can power the running lights and stop lights on the towed trailer. Note that vehicles and trailers that have amber turn signals typically require the use of a tail light converter to insure proper operation. The CARLISLE actuator draws approximately 1 – 3 amps of power from the tail light circuit to power the on-board battery charger. On trailers with multiple running lights, it may be necessary to install a powered tail light converter to insure that adequate power is available to operate the trailer brake actuator.

### **C: System Components:**

#### **Trailer Mounted Actuator**

The heart of the CARLISLE system is an electric brake actuator, which includes a microprocessor and accelerometer. The accelerometer is used to sense the amount of braking being generated by the towing vehicle. Based on that input, the microprocessor then automatically adjusts the output of the unit to generate a comparable amount of trailer braking. Unlike a traditional electronic brake control, the electrical power required to actuate the trailer brakes is drawn entirely from the trailer mounted brake battery (17 amp hour minimum capacity). To insure that the trailer brake battery remains fully charged at all times, a 3 amp battery charger is included as an integral part of the trailer mounted actuator. Power for that battery charger is drawn from the running light circuit on the tow vehicle. Thus, it is critical that the tow vehicle running lights are on whenever the

trailer is being towed. Note that it is also critical that the trailer brake battery is not connected to any other charging circuit on the tow vehicle. Connecting the trailer brake battery to a second charging source will cause sporadic operation and communication errors between the actuator and in-cab controller.

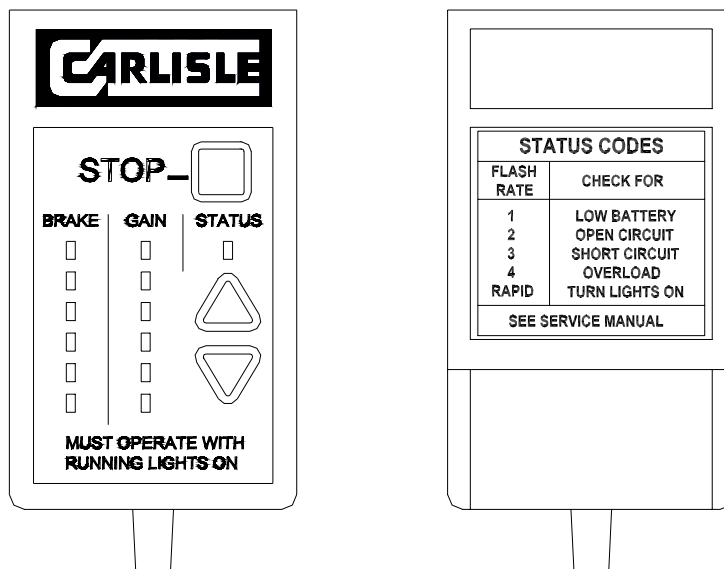
Trailer Mounted Brake Battery

All of the power for the trailer brakes is drawn from the trailer mounted trailer brake battery. For proper operation, the system needs a “deep cycle” battery with a minimum capacity of 17 amp hours. Note that the trailer brake battery also provides power to the trailer brakes in the event of an emergency breakaway.

Breakaway Switch

The system also includes an emergency breakaway switch. The breakaway switch is mounted on the trailer and is connected electrically to the trailer brake battery and to the CARLISLE actuator. The switch is also connected mechanically to the tow vehicle. When a breakaway condition occurs, the plunger on the breakaway switch is pulled out by the tow vehicle, thereby completing an electrical circuit between the trailer brake battery and the breakaway circuit on the CARLISLE actuator. When a breakaway condition is sensed by the CARLISLE actuator, the trailer brakes are automatically applied at full power.

In-Cab Controller



The in-cab controller gives the vehicle operator a means to increase or decrease the amount of trailer braking. It also provides both audible and visible indications of any problem detected by the internal monitoring system. The in-cab controller is equipped with colored LEDs to indicate gain setting (green), brake output (red) and system problem status codes (yellow). It also has pushbutton switches to adjust the output of the trailer brakes versus the towing vehicle (i.e. gain) and to manually apply the trailer brakes. The in-cab controller is easily installed by inserting its power plug into the cigarette lighter receptacle (not an accessory power receptacle) on the tow vehicle and turning the running lights on. Note that the unit must be plugged in each time that the towing vehicle is started. The unit will automatically check to make sure that the running lights are on and that the system is functioning as designed. In the event that a problem is detected, the unit will flash the yellow status light on the face of the unit and will make a series of audible “beeps”. The number of beeps is an indication of the problem that the system has detected. Count the number of beeps and check the chart on the back of the unit to obtain direction on possible causes of the problem (see Section J. Trouble Shooting Guide). The unit must be unplugged each time the tow vehicle is taken out of the service and the running lights are shut off. A series of rapid beeps from the unit is an indication that you either are driving without having your running lights on or that you forgot to unplug the unit when the vehicle was shut off.

In-Cab Controller operation is as follows:

**GAIN SETTING-** Press either the UP arrow to increase the amount of trailer braking and the down arrow to decrease the amount of trailer braking. The selected gain level will be shown by the number of green illuminated LED's on the face of the unit. One light corresponds to the lowest setting, six lights corresponds to the highest gain setting.

**STOP BUTTON -** Press the red square STOP button to manually apply the trailer brakes. Depending on the gain setting selected, 1 to 6 red LED's will illuminate to indicate the level of braking being generated. The brake lights on the trailer also automatically turn on whenever the manual brake button is depressed.

**SYSTEM STATUS CODES -** Yellow status LED flashes, audible alarm beeps:

<u># of Beeps or Flashes</u>	<u>Error Indication</u>
1	Low Battery Voltage – trailer brake battery
2	Open Circuit – trailer wiring problem or brake magnet failed to open
3	Short Circuit – trailer wiring or brake magnet shorted to ground
4	Overload – actuator unit overheated
RAPID	Loss of Power – tail / running lights not turned ON

#### **D. IMPORTANT SAFETY MESSAGES!**

**WARNING!** Thoroughly read and understand this manual before installation. Failure to properly follow this manual could cause a malfunction, resulting in possibly serious or fatal injuries and/or property damage.

**WARNING!** The brake system on the towed vehicle is intended only to supplement the tow vehicle brake system. At no time should the towed vehicle brake system be relied upon to stop the towing vehicle.

**WARNING!** All of the electrical power required to operate the trailer brakes is drawn from the trailer mounted brake battery. It is critical that the trailer brake battery is a “deep cycle” battery, and has a minimum capacity of 17 amp hours. Operation with a weak or discharged battery can cause the actuator to malfunction, resulting in possibly serious or fatal injuries and/or property damage. Do not attempt to operate the unit if a low voltage condition is signaled.

**WARNING!** The Carlisle electric brake actuator is not intended to function as a park brake. When stopped for extended periods of time, apply the towing vehicle park brake and release the brake pedal.

**WARNING!** Failure to properly install, protect, operate and maintain the actuator system can cause a malfunction resulting in possibly serious or fatal injuries and/or property damage.

**WARNING!** The tow vehicle / trailer tail & running lights **MUST BE TURNED ON, BEFORE PERFORMING ANY TOWING**, for the actuator to operate correctly, and for the breakaway battery to be recharged. Failure to turn the lights ON can cause the actuator to malfunction, or the breakaway battery to become discharged, resulting in possibly serious or fatal injuries and/or property damage.

**WARNING!** Should any SYSTEM PROBLEM STATUS CODE signals occur, immediately stop the tow vehicle / trailer and make all necessary repairs (see Section J. Trouble Shooting Guide). Failure to properly maintain the actuator system can result in possibly serious or fatal injuries and/or property damage.

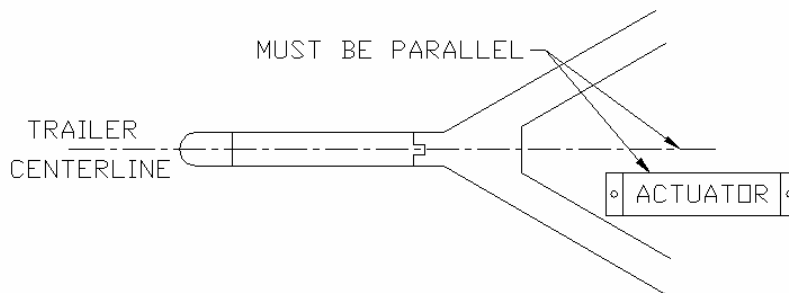
## **E. Installation Instructions – Trailer Actuator:**

### **Before Starting**

1. Examine all trailer wiring to verify that it is in good condition and properly connected. Be aware that the use of undersized wiring from the actuator to the brake magnets will result in reduced trailer braking. 12 gauge wiring is recommended from the output of the CARLISLE actuator to the brakes on the trailer. The ground side of the magnets also needs to be connected directly to the ground side of the trailer brake battery via the trailer wiring (not by grounding the magnet to a ground connection to the trailer frame).
2. Inspect the trailer brakes to be sure they are in good condition and are properly adjusted. Consult your trailer owners manual for instructions on how to adjust the trailer brakes.
3. The Electrastar™ unit contains sensitive electronics that must be protected. Drilling additional holes in the housing or electrostatically painting the Electrastar™ unit, or welding anywhere on the Electrastar™ unit will damage the unit making it inoperable and will void the manufacturer's warranty. Always remove the Electrastar™ unit from the trailer before doing any welding repair or modifications to the trailer structure.

### **Mounting the Trailer Brake Actuator, Trailer Brake Battery, and Emergency Breakaway Switch**

1. Position the trailer as if it were connected to the towing vehicle. The actuator must be installed at a location on the trailer that is level to insure proper operation. Failure to properly level the unit may result in sporadic operation.
2. Select a mounting area for the actuator on the trailer that will provide easy access to the trailer brake battery, the emergency breakaway switch, and the trailer / tow vehicle electrical connector. The mounting location should give consideration to protecting the unit from road debris and from unnecessary abuse (i.e. The unit should not be used as a step).
3. The long side of the actuator must be mounted parallel to the trailer centerline so that the wiring is directed to the front of the trailer. Failure to properly align the unit may result in sporadic operation.
4. The actuator must be mounted in a horizontal position with the angled mounting brackets down. (As shown in Section I. Replacement Parts List / Mounting Dimensions **bottom view.**)



5. Attach the actuator to the trailer by installing two (2) #10 screws through the mounting holes.
6. The trailer brake battery can be mounted at any convenient location on the trailer. Mount the battery enclosure with (2) 0.25 inch diameter screws to trailer giving consideration to the fact that the battery is heavy and requires adequate support.
7. Mount the emergency breakaway switch on the tongue of the trailer providing for a direct mechanical link between the switch plunger and the towing vehicle. Mount the switch with a 0.25 inch screw.

### **F. Actuator Wiring:**

Connect the six wires from the trailer mounted actuator to the trailer wiring system as follows – See Diagram

**WARNING!** Failure to wire the unit properly can result in damage to the trailer brake actuator.

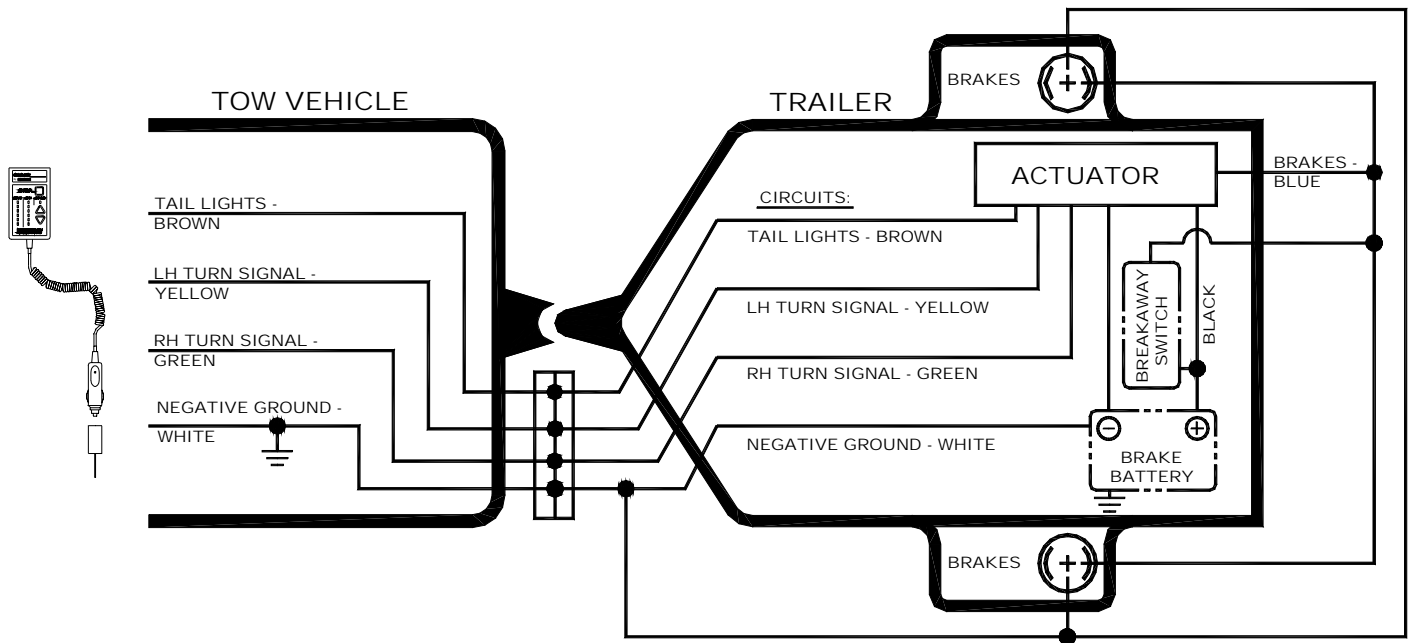
#### **Trailer Actuator Wires**

**BROWN WIRE** - Connect the brown wire from the actuator to the tail light / running light circuit on the trailer.

**YELLOW WIRE** - Connect the yellow wire from the actuator to the left turn signal / brake light circuit on the trailer.

- GREEN WIRE - Connect the green wire from the actuator to the right turn signal / brake light circuit on the trailer.
- WHITE WIRE - Connect the white wire from the actuator to the negative terminal ( - ) on the trailer battery and to both a ground connection on the trailer and to the ground wire in the wiring harness from the tow vehicle. The unit will not operate properly without a direct connection to the ground circuit on the towing vehicle. Grounding between the trailer ball and coupler without a direct connection to the towing vehicle ground circuit will result in system errors.
- BLACK WIRE - Connect the black wire from the actuator to the positive terminal ( + ) on the trailer battery and to one side of the emergency breakaway switch.
- BLUE WIRE - Connect the blue wire from the actuator to the positive side of the trailer brakes and to the remaining unused emergency breakaway switch terminal.

**Electrical Wiring Diagram:**



**G. Installation Check Procedures:**

**Checks With Tow Vehicle Engine NOT RUNNING, Park Brake SET, In-Cab Controller Unplugged-**

1. Turn on the tow vehicle running light switch. Verify that the trailer running lights are ON, and that power is being supplied to the BROWN wire on the CARLISLE actuator. Make any necessary repairs.
2. Apply and release the tow vehicle brake pedal several times. Each time the pedal is pressed the brake lights on both the tow vehicle and trailer should be illuminated, and power should be supplied to both the yellow and green wires on the actuator. Make any necessary repairs.
3. Turn OFF the tow vehicle tail / running light switch. Activate the breakaway system by pulling out the breakaway switch plunger. Verify that power is being supplied to the blue wire on the actuator, and that the trailer brakes are functioning correctly. Replace the plunger on the emergency breakaway switch.

**In-Cab Controller Operation -**

1. With the tail/running light switch OFF, plug the in-cab controller cord into the cigarette lighter receptacle (not an accessory power receptacle). A “beeping” sound should be heard, and the in-cab controller should display a rapidly flashing yellow light. Turn on the light switch – the sound and flashing light should stop. If it continues to sound and flash, recheck for 12 volts to the BROWN wire, and/or for correct GROUND circuit wiring.

2. Repeatedly press the UP or DOWN arrow switches on the in-cab controller. From 1 to 6 Green LED indicators should glow to indicate that various gain settings are being selected.
3. Select maximum gain setting (6 Green LED), press and hold the square, red STOP switch. From 4 to 6 red LED indicators on the controller should glow, and the trailer brake lights should be illuminated.
4. Apply and release the tow vehicle brake pedal several times. Each time the pedal is pressed, from 1 to 3 red LED indicators should glow, and the trailer brake lights should illuminate.

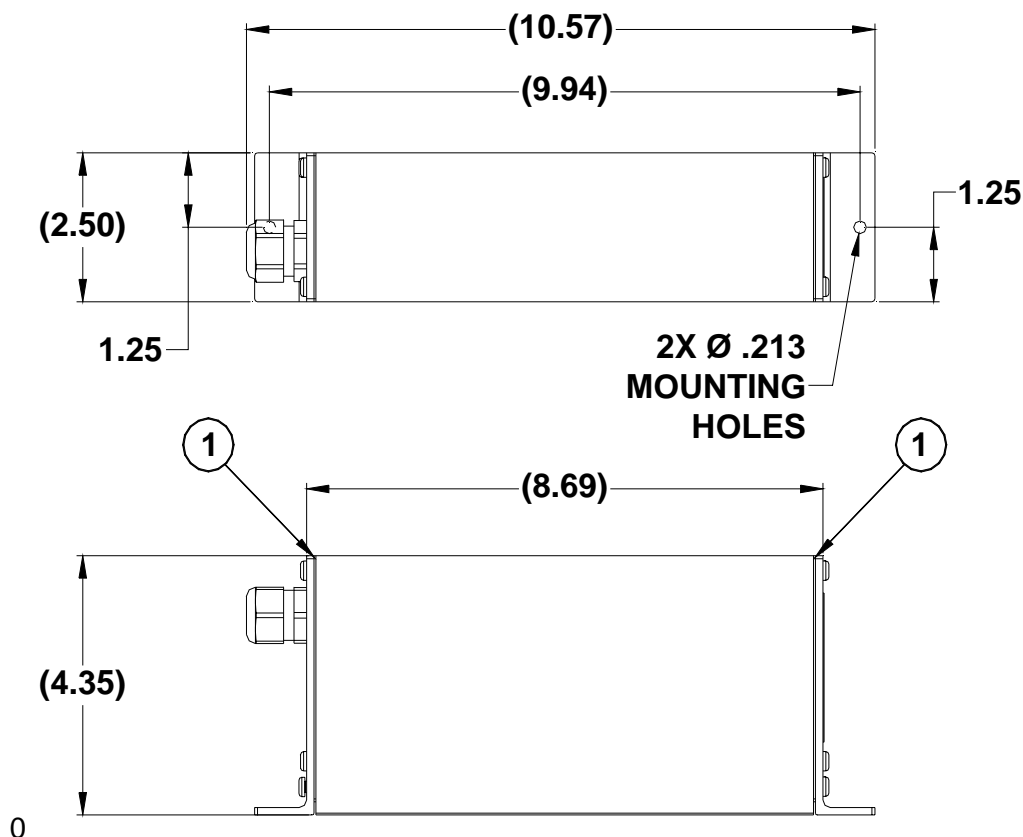
**Checks with Tow Vehicle Engine Running – USE EXTREME CAUTION!**

5. Select the maximum Gain Setting (6 green LED) using the in-cab controller. Apply and HOLD the tow vehicle brake pedal, release the park brake, start the engine and place the transmission shift lever in Forward. With the engine at low idle speed, release the brake pedal enough to allow the tow vehicle to move slowly forward. Apply a small force to the brake pedal. The trailer brakes should be felt to apply, noticeably slowing the tow vehicle. Repeat this procedure 2-3 more times.
6. Lower the gain setting to number 5 and perform Check Procedure 7 several more times, trying various levels of applied pedal force.
7. Continue checking at various gain setting steps until you are thoroughly experienced at operating the system, and have established the appropriate gain setting for the particular trailer involved.

**H. DOT Inspection Note**

To demonstrate that the actuator and trailer brake system are functioning properly, adjust the up arrow on the in-cab controller until the system is set at its maximum gain setting (i.e. 6 green LED's illuminated). Press and hold the red STOP button on the in-cab controller and attempt to drive through the trailer brakes. This will apply the maximum power to the trailer brake magnets and will demonstrate to DOT personnel that the trailer brakes are functioning properly.

**I. Replacement Parts List / Mounting Dimensions**



REPLACEMENT PARTS LIST			
ITEM	PART	QTY	DESCRIPTION
1	68-8632	2	GASKET, ENCLOSURE END
NOT SHOWN	381-7022	1	PARTS KIT, REPLACEMENT IN-CAB CONTROLLER
NOT SHOWN	496-166	1	TRAILER BATTERY PACK COMPLETE: 12 VDC, 17 A/H, DEEP CYCLE BATTERY, ENCLOSURE, HARDWARE, BREAKAWAY SWITCH, INSTRUCTION SHEET, AND STRAPS.

## J. Trouble Shooting Guide

### ***Controller beeps one time, repeatedly***

- **Low Battery:** Check for low battery by pulling breakaway pin. Voltage should drop from 12 volts DC to 10-11 volts DC. If drop is larger, charge or replace battery.

### ***Controller beeps two times, repeatedly***

- **Open Circuit:** Pull breakaway pin. Make sure brakes are working. If not, check for loose or broken connections to brake magnets.

### ***Controller beeps three times, repeatedly***

- **Short Circuit:** Check for bare wire or loose connections in ground. Also check for power wires making contact with each other or grounded surface.

### ***Controller beeps four times, repeatedly***

- **Overload:** Check for too many running lights, or too many axles (more than three heavy duty).

### ***Controller beeps five times, repeatedly***

#### **Turn Lights On:**

- Make sure that the trailer running lights are on.
- Make sure the in-cab controller is plugged into the cigarette lighter receptacle (not an accessory power receptacle).
- Check for bad connections in plugs on the trailer and towing vehicle.
- Make sure plug pins are tight and not worn from use or dragging on the ground.
- Make sure there is no corrosion. Check ground connections. Make sure trailer is grounded to towing vehicle and trailer battery.

### ***Brakes do not work. There are no beeps.***

- Push on the brake pedal. One read light should come on. Turn gain up to six green lights. Push red button on controller. Two or three red lights should come on. If not, contact your distributor.

### ***Trailer lights flicker***

- Battery charger in the Electrastar™ is cycling on and off. This may be eliminated by running a brown wire directly from the trailer plug to the brown wire on the Electrastar™ unit.





## K. LIMITED WARRANTY AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

All products, excluding friction materials, manufactured and sold by Carlisle Industrial Brake, Subsidiary of Carlisle Corporation, are warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal and proper use for a period the shorter of: (1) one year from vehicle in-service date subsequent to installation of Carlisle product or (2) 18 months from date of shipment from Carlisle. No claim for breach of warranty will be allowed unless the material or workmanship defect is found within the warranty period, properly documented by buyer and Carlisle is notified in writing within 30 days from failure. This warranty shall not apply to products altered or utilized in a manner not approved by Carlisle or subjected to abuse, misuse, improper maintenance, negligence or accident.

THE FOREGOING WARRANTIES ARE EXCLUSIVE, AND ARE ACCEPTED BY BUYER IN LIEU OF ANY AND ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR PARTICULAR PURPOSE. Buyer's sole remedy in the event of a breach of the foregoing warranties is the repair or replacement of the affected product by Carlisle. NO merchandise will be accepted for warranty credit consideration without a Returned Goods Authorization Number issued by the Customer Service Representative (812-334-8737). If, upon inspection by the Returned Goods Technician, the merchandise is found to be free from defects in material and workmanship, then the warranty claim shall be deemed invalid, and the merchandise shall be held for a period of (15) days pending disposition by the buyer and an inspection charge may be applied by Carlisle. BUYER AGREES THAT IN NO EVENT WILL CARLISLE'S LIABILITY FOR ALL LOSSES FROM ANY CAUSE, WHETHER BASED ON CONTRACT, NEGLIGENCE, STRICT LIABILITY, OTHER TORT OR OTHERWISE, EXCEED BUYER'S NET PURCHASE PRICE, NOR WILL CARLISLE BE LIABLE FOR ANY SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL OR EXEMPLARY DAMAGES.

The foregoing warranties will continue in effect so long as the product is serviced and maintained in accordance with Carlisle instructions and with genuine Carlisle manufactured replacement parts. These warranties may not be altered or amended except by a written instrument signed by buyer and a duly authorized officer of Carlisle.