

# BRAKE DRAG IN THE BAG



Dear Half-Mast,

Our unit has received M105A3 trailers to replace the -A2 models. But we are having trouble with the brakes dragging while going down the road. We couldn't find a solution in the TM, and have ended up burning up the brakes on several trailers!

The brakes are adjusted, the master cylinder is at 3/4 full, and the parking brake is okay. When brake dragging occurs, we have to crack the bleeders, or loosen the brake line at the rubber hose near the master cylinder to unlock the brakes. What's the best solution?

SSG T.M.

Dear Sergeant T.M.,

*It's certainly not normal to have brakes drag going down the road! Here's what TACOM LCMC recommends:*

- 1. Start by checking the hand brake system. Make sure the hand brake cable is returning completely. If either side is sticking, replace both of them.*
- 2. Next, check the hand brake handle. Lube it and make sure it functions properly. Fix any problems you find.*
- 3. Finally, inspect the surge brake device. If it's damaged, rusted, or not functioning properly, that may be the culprit behind the brake dragging. There aren't any repair or replacement parts for it, so you'll have to order a new surge brake assembly.*

*Right now, TM 9-2330-324-14&P doesn't cover troubleshooting the surge brake device adequately, but the plan is to fix that at the next update. Until then, keep this info in your motor pool. See WP 0004 00-1 in the TM.*

*By the way, a smaller version of this surge brake device is used on M101 and M116 trailers. So the brake troubleshooting procedure I just told you about applies to those models, too.*

*Half-Mast*