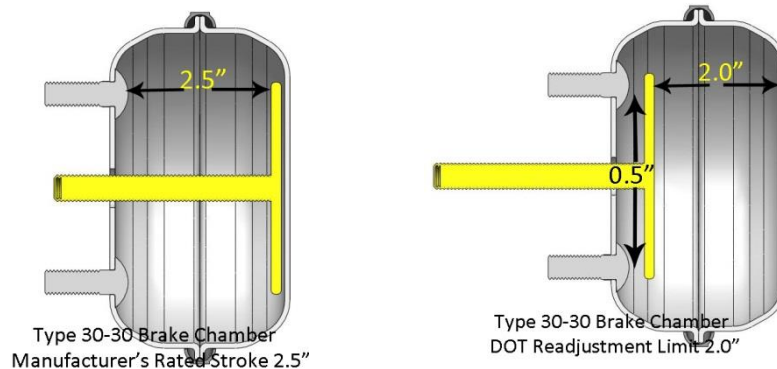


The Importance of Brake Adjustment

Proper brake adjustment is critical to ensure that a commercial vehicle has sufficient reserve braking to stop in the shortest possible distance. *It is mandatory in North America that a driver completes a daily pre-trip inspection of his vehicle's braking system to ensure his brakes are properly adjusted.*

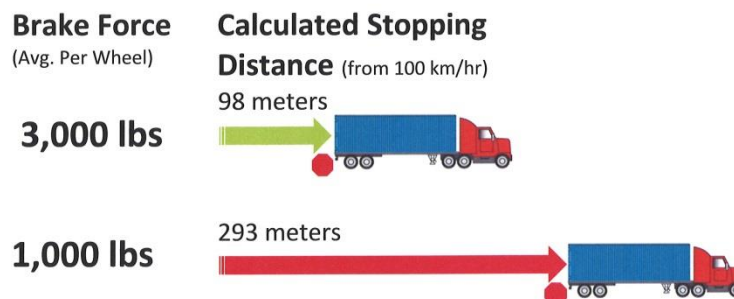


Air brakes have an application limit (commonly referred to as the “manufacturer’s rated stroke”) at which point virtually no brake force is available to stop a vehicle. If the brake is out of adjustment then you need to determine why the automatic slack adjuster is not properly self-adjusting.



The DOT mandates a readjustment point commencing 1/2 inch before the manufacturer's rated stroke is reached to ensure that effective braking will occur in both normal and emergency situations.

At the DOT readjustment limit, brake force is approximately 3,000 lbs per wheel.



Beyond the DOT readjustment limit, brake force decreases significantly and at the manufacturer's rated travel limit, brake force is virtually non-existent.