

M.I.9685

MODERNIZATION RECOMMENDATION



WHEEL TYPE HANDBRAKE FOR SIX-AXLE LOCOMOTIVES

PURPOSE:

The application of a recent design improvement to wheel-type handbrakes on six-axle locomotives that provides an internal protective cover for improved application and release.

APPLICATION:

Applies to six-axle locomotives equipped with either P/N 8439341 or P/N 6948644 doubler assembly.

REQUIRED PART:

Bracket P/N 40044172, one (1) per locomotive.

REFERENCE:

Handbrake Application Drawing P/N 40024900, Rev. A.

DISCUSSION:

EMD has recently made an improvement to the handbrake design on current model locomotives. This improvement to the internal design of the handbrake is now available for retrofit on older model, six-axle locomotives equipped with the subject doubler assembly. This protective cover is easily attached to the doubler assembly and eliminates any possibility of momentary binding of the hand brake chain during application or release.

All SD six-axle model locomotive handbrakes are equipped with a doubler assembly. The doubler assembly is moved up or down, depending on how the handwheel is rotated, and provides additional leverage to the operator. This leverage is necessary due to the fact that the SD model locomotive handbrakes must provide clamping effort to two wheels because of the locomotive size and weight. All other locomotive models clamp on only one wheel.

As the handwheel is rotated to apply the handbrake, the doubler assembly is drawn up towards the operator at the same time that slack chain from the handwheel is coming down toward the doubler. It is possible for the slack chain to become momentarily wedged in the doubler assembly, causing further handwheel rotation to become difficult until the chain dislodges. The application of this protective cover eliminates this potential for difficulty.

This part may be purchased through the appropriate Customer Service department. Those customers who wish to fabricate the part themselves may purchase the part drawing.

PROCEDURE:

1. All Railroad shop safety rules and practices must be followed at all times during this entire modification procedure.
2. Block the locomotive wheels in such a manner as to prevent movement.
3. Remove the lower handbrake cover and set it aside.
4. Rotate the handwheel until the doubler assembly is near the floorplate.
5. Clamp and weld the P/N 40044172 (item #24) bracket to the doubler per EMD application drawing P/N 40024900.
6. Apply the handbrake and adjust as necessary. Replace the lower handbrake cover.

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