

FOCAL RETARDER ROUTINE MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION

RETARDER WASHING

If the retarder system has been used extensively prior to washing, allow the unit to cool down to avoid any possibility of distortion of the rotors.

Clean the retarder using a pressure washer.

Note : Ensure that the pressure and temperature settings of the washer are sufficient to clean the unit without damage to coils and insulation. Avoid the use of cleaning chemicals, solvents, etc., which may attack the retarder insulation.

RECOMMENDED INSPECTION FOR FOCAL RETARDERS

It is recommended that the following inspections are incorporated into the routine vehicle maintenance at the intervals appropriate to the mileage and type of operation.

For details of torque settings for retarder fasteners, please refer to the appropriate specification sheet.

- Check condition of retarder for cleanliness, physical damage
 - Check propshaft coupling fasteners are secure
 - Check condition of propshaft universal joints and sliders

 - Check condition of retarder connector block, power cable and connections
 - Check condition of earth cable and connections
 - Check current draw or resistance per stage

 - Check condition of heat and grease shields
 - Check condition of vehicle system pipes, cables, etc., in the vicinity of the retarder

 - Check condition and security of the eight stator bolts securing the retarder to the retarder support
 - Check condition and security of the outboard rotor nuts
 - Check condition of auxiliary support and mountings if fitted
 - Check retarder rotor air-gaps are within tolerance around the retarder for both rotors
- If the rotor air gaps are out of tolerance, further checks may be necessary, including inspection for
- Axle or gearbox flange end-float
 - Loose fasteners