



Chassis Technical Bulletin CTB 012, 15 July 2009

Title: Spring Brake Disarming and Disposal

When spring brake maxi-chambers are to be disposed, **ALL** maxi-chambers must be safely disarmed prior to their disposal to prevent injury from accidental release of the high energy spring (as much as 2700 lbs) within their parking brake chamber. **NEVER** attempt to service or disassemble the spring chamber on any spring brake actuator. The large spring in the spring chamber has **EXTREME** force which could cause serious bodily injury **or death** if it were suddenly released due to inadvertent removal of the clamp.

Anytime a maxi-chamber is to be removed from the axle for disposal (or otherwise), it must **FIRST** be enclosed in a safety chamber, while on the axle, **BEFORE performing any other work.** **AFTER** installation of the safety chamber around the maxi-chamber, the spring brake can then have its power spring caged, before its removal from the chassis axle.

Once the maxi-chamber chamber **within its safety cage** has been removed from the chassis for disposal, it needs to be disarmed while keeping the maxi-chamber in its safety chamber:

- Guide an acetylene torch through one of access ports in the safety chamber, and cut a hole through the head housing the power spring.
- Cut a 2 ½ inch hole through the housing and then cut the spring.
- Repeat this procedure on the opposite side of the chamber.
- **Use a screw driver** to check and make sure that the coils are loose in the chamber. Do NOT check w/ fingers!!!

ONCE THE COILS ARE LOOSE, the brake maxi-chamber has been rendered harmless and can then be removed from the safety cage, and discarded.

WARNING: Great care must be used whenever handling maxi-chamber, particularly when there is evidence of deterioration in the housing.

Note: WAGNER TYPE SPRING BRAKE MAXI CHAMBERS are a special case, and must be disarmed upon entry to any depot. A history of internal corrosion makes this type of maxi-chamber unpredictable and dangerous. All Wagner maxi-brake chambers must be disarmed immediately, per above procedures



(Maxi brake safety chamber)



(Maxi brake safety chamber)



(Brake chamber locked inside safety chamber)



(Brake chamber locked inside safety chamber)



INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL CONTAINER LESSORS



(Cut holes through brake chamber head housing and spring)

*1990 M STREET NW, SUITE 650, WASHINGTON, DC 20036-3417 USA
TELEPHONE: 202 223-9800 FAX: 202 223-9810 WEBSITE: www.iiicl.org*