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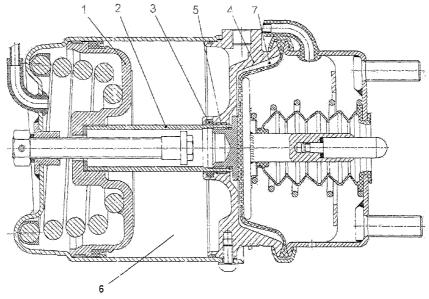
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: SPRING BRAKE ACTUATOR WHICH ACCOMODATES DOUBLE O-RING ON ITS ADAPTER PLATE FOR IMPROVED SEALING



(57) Abstract: The present invention concerns spring brake actuators, which provide braking power for motorway vehicles used in commercial transportation such as trucks, busses and trailers. The spring brake actuator, which is the subject of this invention, is composed of the "Service Brake Chamber" which operates when the vehicle is in action and the "Spring Chamber" which operates when the vehicle is parked. The spring brake actuator, which accommodates double O-ring in its adapter plate for improved sealing, consists of the main elements of adapter plate (4), guide ring (5), spring chamber (6), service brake chamber (7), first O-ring groove (8), second O-ring groove (9), guide ring groove (10), area between O-rings (11) and the second O-ring (12).



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SPRING BRAKE ACTUATOR WHICH ACCOMMODATES DOUBLE O-RING ON ITS ADAPTER PLATE FOR IMPROVED SEALING

This invention is about the spring brake actuator, which provides the braking power in highway vehicles used for commercial transportation such as trucks, busses and trailers.

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The spring brake actuator, which is the subject of this invention, is composed of two chambers: the "Service Brake Chamber" which operates when the vehicle is in action and the "Spring Chamber" which operates when the vehicle is parked.

The Service Brake Chamber and the Spring Chamber in spring brake actuators operate with pressurized air coming from different lines and are controlled by various valves in the cab.

In the spring brake actuators, the subject of this invention, contaminants such as chips, burr, and dye particles from the internal parts get caught between the aluminum pipe and the O-ring in time and cause the sealing characteristic to disappear and result in air leakage. Furthermore, the system which is greased during installation loses its lubrication in time causing the O-ring to abrade and rotate in its slot. When parts shrink and harden in excessively cold temperatures the sealing system loses its property. Due to the facts stated above air leakage occurs in the system and the brake element, which is a vital element, faces failures which require immediate repair.

In the spring brake actuators, the subject of this invention, produced according to prior art there is one "O-ring" and one "Guide ring" in the core of the adapter plates.

The spring brake actuator which accommodates double o-ring on its adapter plate aims to prevent or minimize probable ail leakage due to any reason occurring in the area between the "Service Brake Chamber" and the "Spring Chamber."

In order to fulfil this aim, double "O-ring" and a single "Guide ring" is used instead of the single "O-ring" and "Guide ring" on the core of the adapter plates in the spring brake actuators produced according to prior art. Thus, the risks mentioned above have been reduced to a great extent.

The illustrations (figures) in order to aid in the understanding of the spring brake actuators which accommodate double O-ring on their adapter plates are provided in the annex. The definitions of the figures are as follows:

Figure 1 – Sectional view of the spring brake actuator produced according to prior art.

Figure 2 – Sectional view of the spring brake actuator developed by this invention.

Figure 3 – Sectional view of the adapter plate produced according to prior art.

Figure 4 – Sectional view of the adapter plate developed by this invention.

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For a better understanding of the illustrations (figures) related to the spring brake actuators which accommodate double O-ring on their adapter plates for improved sealing developed by this invention the parts have been given numbers, and the definition of the numbers are as follows:

- 1. Aluminum piston
- 2. Aluminum pipe
- 3. O-Ring

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- 4. Adapter plate
- 5. Guide ring
- 6. Spring Chamber 10
 - 7. Service Brake Chamber
 - 8. First O-Ring Channel
 - 9. Second O-Ring Groove
 - 10. Guide ring Groove
 - 11. Area between O-rings
 - 12. Second O-Ring

The spring brake actuators which accommodate double O-ring on their adapter plates for improved sealing developed by this invention are composed of the following main elements: adapter plate (4), guide ring (5), spring chamber (6), service brake chamber (7), first O-ring groove (8), second O-ring groove (9), guide ring groove (10), area between O-rings (11), and second O-ring (12).

The aluminium piston (1) and the aluminium pipe (2) in the spring brake actuators which accommodate double O-ring in their adapter plates for improved sealing developed by this invention are guided and move freely. The surface of the aluminium pipe is covered with eloxal and is smooth. The aluminium pipe (2) and the O-ring (3) provide a sealing system and prevent the transfer of pressurized air between the spring chamber (6) and the service brake chamber (7). The guide ring (5) ensures proper operation of the sealing system by centring and guiding the complete piston unit which is formed by aluminium piston (1) and aluminium pipe (2).

One of the O-rings (3) is placed in the side of the Spring Chamber (6) and the other (12) in the side of the Service Brake Chamber (7). The pressure in each brake chamber is held by the sealing provided by the O-ring next to them. The O-rings (3 and 12) are placed in the O-ring grooves (8 and 9) machined on the adapter plate (4). If a problem occurs in one of the O-rings, sealing is provided by the other O-ring as in the case of the brake actuators produced according to prior art. The double O-ring system in the spring brake actuators which accommodate double O-ring in their adapter plates developed by this invention provides enhanced safety.

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Grease put in the area (11) between the two O-ring systems (8, 9, 3 and 12) provides long time lubrication of the system since this area is closed at both ends thereby preventing shrinkage and failure resulting from the lack of grease.

In the spring brake actuators which accommodate double O-ring in their adapter plates for improved sealing developed by this invention, air leakage in one of the O-rings due to shrinkage in the parts in excessively cold weather conditions or the hardening of the O-rings is prevented by the other O-ring. This further enhances the system safety.

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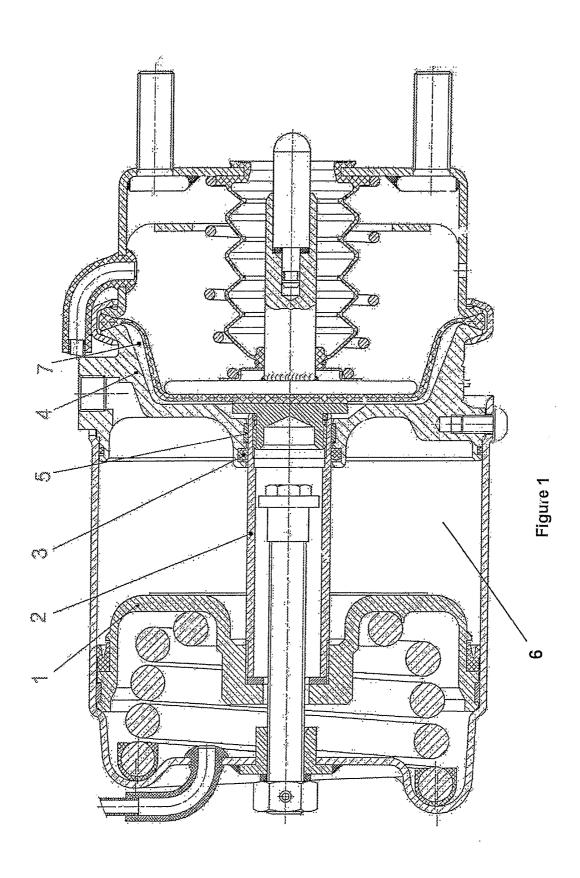
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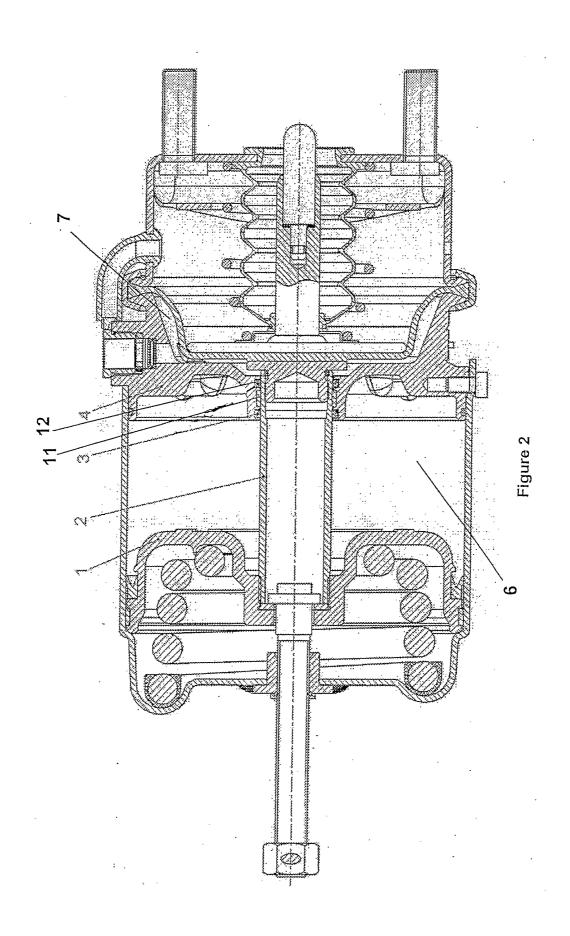
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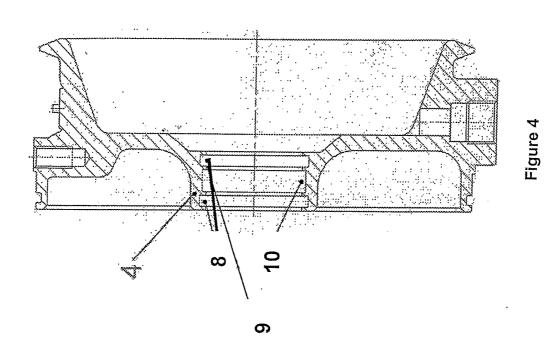
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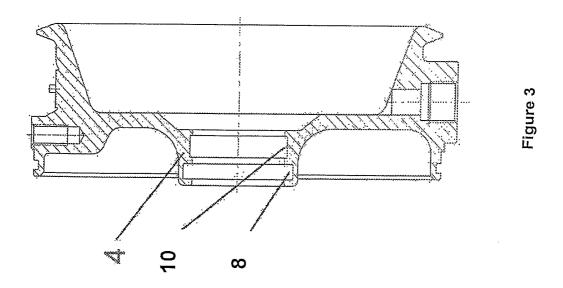
CLAIMS

- 1- Spring brake actuator which accommodates double O-ring in its adapter plate for improved sealing consisting of the main elements of adapter plate (4), guide ring (5), spring chamber (6), service brake chamber (7), first O-ring groove (8), second O-ring groove (9), guide ring groove (10), area between O-rings (11) and the second O-ring (12).
- 2- According to Claim 1, spring brake actuator, which accommodates double O-ring in its adapter plate for improved sealing, with aluminium piston (1) and the aluminium pipe (2) screwed to it guided and moving freely; the surface of the aluminum pipe (2) covered in eloxal and smooth; the aluminium pipe (2) and the O-ring (3) providing a sealing system and preventing the transfer of pressurized air between the spring chamber (6) and the service brake chamber (7); the guide ring (5) ensuring proper operation of the sealing system by centering and guiding the complete piston unit which is formed by aluminium piston (1) and aluminium pipe (2).
- According to Claims 1 and 2, spring brake actuator, which accommodates double Oring in its adapter plate for improved sealing, characterized by the first O-ring (3) placed in the side of the Spring Chamber (6) and the second O-ring (12) placed in the side of the Service Brake Chamber (7).
- 4- According to Claims 1, 2 and 3, spring brake actuator which accommodates double
 20 O-ring in its adapter plate for improved sealing, characterized by two O-rings (3 and
 12) placed in the O-ring grooves (8 and 9) machined on the adapter plate (4).
 - 5- According to Claims 1, 2, 3 and 4, spring brake actuator, which accommodates double O-ring in its adapter plate for improved sealing, characterized by grease in the area (11) between the two O-ring systems (8, 9, 3 and 12) providing long time lubrication of the system since this area is closed at both ends, thereby preventing shrinkage and failure resulting from the lack of grease.
 - 6- According to Claims 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, spring brake actuator, which accommodates double O-ring in its adapter plate for improved sealing, characterized by the prevention of air leakage in one of the O-rings due to shrinkage in the parts in excessively cold weather conditions or the hardening of the O-rings by the other O-ring.









INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B60T17/08 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B60T Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. χ EP 0 490 841 A (BENDIX HEAVY VEHICLE SYST) 1 - 617 June 1992 (1992-06-17) abstract; figures 1-8 column 3, line 35 - line 46 Α WO 96 28331 A (NAI ANCHORLOK INC ;STOJIC 1 STEVEN M (US); ALVAREZ FRANCISCO J (US)) 19 September 1996 (1996-09-19) abstract; figures 1,5 DE 39 32 524 A (BOSCH GMBH ROBERT) 1 11 April 1991 (1991-04-11) abstract; figure 1 Α GB 2 261 472 A (BENDIX LTD) 1 19 May 1993 (1993-05-19) abstract; figure 1 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the citation or other special reason (as specified) *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document is combined with one or more other such docu other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 13 May 2003 23/05/2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Beckman, T Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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