



**Technical Service
Information Bulletin**
October 17, 2011

**Subject:
InvisiBrake installation in
vehicles with hydroboost
power brakes**

TSIB number 137

This bulletin only applies to vehicles with hydroboost power brakes. If the vehicle has vacuum powered brakes, this bulletin does not apply.

A very small number of vehicles are equipped with hydroboost power brakes. This technology uses hydraulic power from the power steering pump to create power brakes. Most vehicles with hydroboost actually have electric hydroboost — there is a small DC pump that energizes whenever the brakes are activated. Vehicles with electric hydroboost have full-time (‘active’) power braking.

If a vehicle has electric hydroboost InvisiBrake will work. If a vehicle has standard hydroboost, it will not work.

Q: How do you tell if the vehicle has electric hydroboost?

A: According to the manufacturer of the vehicle, make all adjustments necessary to prepare the vehicle for towing. These adjustments may include disconnecting the battery or pulling fuses. Next, turn the ignition to the “tow” position, per the owner’s manual. Have an assistant pump the brakes while you listen under the hood. If you hear the DC pump running, the vehicle has electric hydroboost. If you don’t hear a pump running, either the vehicle has standard hydroboost or the pump is not energized when the vehicle is in the “tow” mode. In either case, you cannot install InvisiBrake.

Important note: InvisiBrake is set to 60 psi at the factory. Hydroboost systems require less force and as a result, installers should set the pressure to 30 psi as a starting point.

Q: What do I do with the vacuum connection on the back of the InvisiBrake controller?

A: Nothing. It will vent to atmosphere.

Q: If I have standard hydroboost InvisiBrake won’t work. What do I do?

A: Essentially you have a “dead” brake pedal. BrakeMaster, the 9700 and Even Brake are designed to work in vehicles with a dead brake pedal. We recommend you install one of these.

Q: What cars have hydroboost?

A: Most diesels and hybrid vehicles use hydroboost or variations of it. All H3 Hummers, 2006 and newer Toyota 4Runners, FJ Cruisers, Highlanders and Tacoma pickups use hydroboost.

