

Bleeding Instructions for Model 125 Brake Actuator

Tools needed:

Large flat blade screwdriver, Medium flat blade screwdriver
DOT 3 brake fluid

The new 12.5 actuator from Tie Down Engineering uses a different method of bleeding the master cylinder and brakes from other models in the TDE line up. All TDE actuators use a built in dampener system. All models except the 12.5 use brake fluid from the master cylinder to prime the dampener. The 12.5 dampener is a sealed unit that is shipped pre-primed. There is no need to fill the dampener before bleeding the brakes and the dampener should not be tampered with.

1. Fill master cylinder with DOT 3 brake fluid. Never use any silicone based brake fluids.

2. Lock open the E-stop release on the underside of the actuator using a flat blade screwdriver and the safety pin. Using the flat blade screwdriver, pry down the E-stop release (Photo 1). Wedge the safety pin under the rear edge of the E-stop release. This will keep the locking mechanism out of the way while you are bleeding the brakes (Photo 2).

3. The master cylinder is pumped by inserting the large flat blade screwdriver through the opening on the right side of the actuator where the E-stop cable exits the housing. To make the large flat blade screw driver get a better leverage point, first insert medium flat blade screwdriver in the top of the actuator and pry back the narrow plate (Photo 3). Insert the large flat blade screwdriver into the opening on the side in front of the plate (Photo 4). Remove the smaller screwdriver in the top hole. This will give you more leverage to pump the cylinder.

4. Pump the cylinder two or three times only. Release fully and repeat as needed until the brakes are bled and the pumping action feels tight. This allows any air bubbles to escape to the top of the master cylinder.

5. Check the fluid level of the master cylinder often during the bleeding process. Do not allow it to go dry.

6. Remove the safety pin from the E-stop catch. Make sure the catch is released fully by being flat against the bottom of the actuator (Photo 5).

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<http://tiedown.com/amarinedls.html>

