



MaxiPARTS Pty Ltd
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Maxus brake shoe recall - December 2015

1. Summary

- 1.1 Following recent testing of its Maxus branded brake shoes, MaxiPARTS has identified that, for some part numbers, there is potentially a risk of a minor quantity of bonded asbestos in the shoe's lining. Brake shoes are made of resin and friction material, and any fibres within the resin cannot be released without mechanical sanding or grinding using power operated tools. The risk of exposure to airborne asbestos from handling, packing or unpacking of new shoes is negligible.
- 1.2 We have notified the ACCC of this issue in accordance with the *Automotive Industry Code of Practice for Safety Recalls* and, after consultation with State and Federal authorities, are instigating a recall of all affected shoes.
- 1.3 The following document summarises the steps that customers and mechanics should follow to identify the affected parts and the safety precautions that need to be followed to minimise potential health impacts from exposure to asbestos when handling both used and unused parts.

2. Part numbers affected by this recall

- 2.1 As at 3 December 2015, parts sold after September 2013 with the following part numbers:

MBS1004FRXEMK	MBS2000R95K
MBS1004PRK	MBS2000RK
MBS1004QRK	MBS2017R
MBS1004FRK	MBS2017RK
MBS1010RK	

- 2.2 All other Maxus brake shoes use a different type of lining and are not impacted by this recall.

3. Identifying the affected products



STEP 1. IDENTIFYING THE PRODUCT ON THE SHELF

- The Maxus product is uniquely packaged in a grey/white cardboard box.
- The part number of the product inside is shown on a sticker on the outside of the box, together with contacts details for MaxiPARTS.
- The part number on the sample box in the picture to the left is MBS1004QRK. This is one of the affected products.

Identifying a fitted lining – by lining



STEP 2: IDENTIFYING A FITTED BRAKE SHOE

- Each shoe will have two (2) lining segments riveted to the steel shoe.
- The shoe can be identified by:
 - Maxus branding on the side of the lining; or
 - the part number stamped on the shoe (see below).
- If, following regular use, the branding is not clearly visible, you should attempt to identify the shoe by reference to the part number stamped into the shoe, as shown below.



STEP 2: IDENTIFYING A FITTED BRAKE SHOE...(CONTINUED)

- Each shoe has a part number (eg, in this picture, MBS1004PRK) stamped into the actual shoe. This can be used to identify the shoes subject to the recall. Part number MBS1004PRK is subject to this recall.
- The part number should be visible even after regular use.

- 3.1 If, based on this notice, you believe your brake shoes are impacted by this recall, unused shoes should not be installed, and they should be returned to the supplier.
- 3.2 If they have already been installed, they should be replaced at the earliest opportunity in accordance with the safety instructions below. You should contact MaxiPARTS for a full refund or replacement (see section 8 below for details).
- 3.3 If you no longer own the vehicle to which the brake shoes were fitted, please advise us of the identity and contact details of the new owner (if known) so they can be provided with a copy of this notice.

- 3.4 If you are unsure whether a particular trailer may have been fitted with the affected products, and do not intend to immediately inspect and, where relevant, replace the affected parts, you should take all appropriate steps to ensure that the person who conducts the next inspection or change-over is put on notice of this recall and the safety instructions below. This could include:
- (a) placarding the trailer to inform any mechanic or technician of the risk of asbestos in the brake shoe lining;
 - (b) attaching a warning sticker to the landing leg of the trailer and/or each wheel hub to identify the issue;
 - (c) forwarding a copy of this notice to the relevant workshop or employee;
 - (d) informing the mechanic or technician at the next service that the brake shoe lining potentially contains asbestos; and
 - (e) informing the mechanic or technician that, if there is any uncertainty, the brake shoes are to be assumed to contain asbestos and appropriate safe handling precautions adopted.

4. **Safe handling - brake shoes in packaging**

- 4.1 MaxiPARTS has been formally advised by an independent, local and qualified occupational health and safety consultant that there is no exposure risk proposed from the affected products that remain unused and still contained in their sealed cardboard box (provided the box is not damaged).
- 4.2 If the box has been damaged (crushed, wet or torn), the box and shoes should be placed in an approved asbestos waste bag that MaxiPARTS can supply or can be procured from a third party safety products supplier. These should be treated as asbestos contaminated waste and disposed of accordingly (see below in section 7 for bagging and disposal requirements). It is unnecessary to wear disposable gloves, a dust mask or a disposable coverall.
- 4.3 Suppliers should contact MaxiPARTS to arrange for collection.

5. **Safe handling - used brake shoes**

- 5.1 For products identified as part of this recall that have been fitted and are in use, consistent with legal obligations in each State and Territory, the following steps are recommended to reduce potential risks to technicians, mechanics and other staff when removing and replacing the shoes:
- (a) The mechanic should be advised that the brake shoe lining potentially contains asbestos.
 - (b) Mechanics should be informed by a relevant supervisor of the hazards associated with asbestos and the risks associated with handling brake shoes that contain asbestos.
 - (c) The mechanic should ensure that he/she has a three (3) meter buffer zone from all other staff members and that he/she displays portable "no entry" signage to indicate asbestos removal is happening.
 - (d) The following personal protective equipment (**PPE**) should be worn: gloves, a mask with a "P2" rated filter, and disposable coveralls. Contaminated clothing should not be worn beyond the removal area. Don't take contaminated clothing home for laundry under any circumstances.
 - (e) **No air tools** should be used during the replacement to reduce the disturbance of the dust and reduce the potential for contamination. Hand tools only are recommended for use.
 - (f) Where possible, avoid working in windy environments to reduce dust movement.
 - (g) Place a tray or tape plastic sheeting to the floor under the removal area to catch spills and make clean-up easier.
 - (h) Prior to removing brake pads, the technician should use the **wet action method** to remove all residue brake dust; this requires that he/she uses a fine water mist from a trigger action hand spray water bottle. A wetting agent, such as detergent, should be added to the water. The linings and the brake drums should be wet sufficiently to reduce

the likelihood of dust becoming airborne. **Do not** use water hoses as this can have a tendency to wash dust from the drum and spread it across the workshop floor.

- (i) The mechanic or technician should then remove the brake pad residue with a workshop rag only.
- (j) The rag should only be used once and disposed in the manner described below.
- (k) Wipe up any spills on the floor.
- (l) All reusable tools used in the process should first be wiped down in the removal area with a disposable rag, and then should be washed in a sink prior to storage to remove any potential residual asbestos contamination. The rag should be disposed of as asbestos waste.
- (m) Reusable masks should have filters replaced after each activity.
- (n) Wash hands and exposed skin thoroughly at the end of each job and do not take asbestos contaminated clothing or respirators outside of the removal area.
- (o) **Do not** eat, drink or smoke in areas where asbestos removal activities have taken place or fibres are, or may be, present.

6. Identification

- 6.1 To enable us to process your request for a refund or replacement, please ensure you or the relevant mechanic or technician photograph:
 - (a) one of each set of two (2) brake shoes (once bagged), showing the MaxiPARTS part number and four (4) digit batch number; and
 - (b) the registration plate of the relevant trailer,("supporting photographs").
- 6.2 Please send the supporting photographs, along with your request for a refund or replacement, to warranty@maxiparts.com.au.

7. Disposal

- 7.1 Once the brake shoes are removed, the technician should put them in a strong sealed bag (see below for details) with the used workshop rag, the disposable coveralls, and any disposable respirator, if there is room. The bag should be clearly labelled: *Caution asbestos – do not inhale dust*.
- 7.2 All asbestos waste should be double-bagged, including the brake shoes, contaminated rags, disposable coveralls and any disposable respirators and filters.
- 7.3 The bags should be approved asbestos waste bags, which are already labelled, and which are available from safety products suppliers or can be supplied by MaxiPARTS, on request.

- 7.4 Each plastic disposal bag should be heavy duty (minimum 200 micron) clear plastic.



- 7.5 Each bag should be tied separately and taped shut to prevent any leakage.



- 7.6 Bags should then be stored securely in a sealed container to avoid any damage prior to being disposed of in accordance with local regulations. Workshops can use an appropriately labelled Sulo style bin or a steel lidded drum. The sealed container must be clearly labelled as containing asbestos waste.
- 7.7 Asbestos waste can only be disposed of by a licensed removalist at a site licensed by the local environmental regulator to accept asbestos waste, and must never be disposed of in the general waste system. Licensed asbestos removalists can be identified through the website of your local environmental protection authority or workplace safety regulator.
- 7.8 Packaging, transportation and disposal of asbestos waste must be left to licensed specialists (see paragraph 7.10 below).
- 7.9 You should always use a licensed carrier and disposal firm and retain a copy of paperwork which confirms transport and disposal at an approved site in accordance with local environmental regulations (see paragraph 7.10 below).
- 7.10 MaxiPARTS will reimburse owners or workshops for the reasonable costs of disposal by a licensed asbestos disposal firm. If you wish to claim a reimbursement for the costs of disposal, please contact MaxiPARTS Customer Assistance at warranty@maxiparts.com.au attaching:
- (a) the invoice from the licensed waste carrier and disposal firm listing the total number of shoes collected;
 - (b) a copy of the waste collection and disposal certificate(s); and
 - (c) a copy of the supporting photographs,
- and nominating an account to which the refund should be paid.

- 7.11 MaxiPARTS will endeavour to pay the refund within 14 days of receipt of the supporting documentation.
- 7.12 Where a customer is seeking replacement or reimbursement of the brake shoes, see below.

8. Process of claiming a refund or replacement of affected brake shoes

Brake shoes unused and still in their original packaging

- 8.1 Unused brake shoes still in original packaging should be returned in their current condition to the point of purchase for a full refund or replacement (at the customer's discretion).

Brake shoes that have been fitted and used

- 8.2 Once removed from the vehicle and bagged in accordance with the safe handling procedures listed above, affected shoes should be stored safely for collection and disposal.
- 8.3 If you provide us with the supporting photographs and proof of purchase, we will endeavour to provide you with a refund or replacement within 14 days.
- 8.4 If you have any enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact MaxiPARTS Customer Assistance on (03) 9368 7077 (during normal business hours).

9. Acknowledgements

- 9.1 Watts Friction Plus, Bremsbelage lined brake shoes recall November 2015*
*CMV Trading Pty Ltd, trading as Watts Friction Plus, takes no responsibility for the accuracy or suitability of the safe handling recommendations in this notice.
- 9.2 WorkSafe Victoria, Guidance Note: Asbestos-containing products in motor vehicle workshops (March 2010).
- 9.3 Victorian Automobile Chamber of Commerce: Safe Asbestos removal and disposal procedure.
- 9.4 US EPA: Current Best Practices for Preventing Asbestos Exposure among Brake and Clutch Repair Workers.