



Service Bulletin

Strong As An Ox™

Number: 259

Date: June 14, 2006

To: Towing Dealers & Distributors, Blue Ox® Team

From: Blue Ox®

Subject: Vehicles with Continuous Power Assist Brakes

Please be advised that Blue Ox® has confirmed the following vehicles are equipped with continuous power assist brake systems: Hummer H3, Ford Escape Hybrid and Mercury Mariner Hybrid. These vehicles are designed so that even when the vehicle is set to tow mode, the braking systems are still “live” or active, thus requiring minimal pressure to engage the brakes of the vehicle.

Blue Ox’s Apollo®, Luxor™, BrakeSafe™ and AutoStop® braking systems are designed to activate the *unassisted* (“dead pedal”) brakes found in the vast majority of vehicles on the market today. These Blue Ox braking systems will apply too much pressure to an active power assist braking system.

Do not install these braking systems on vehicles equipped with continuous power assist brakes. Doing so causes severe tire damage and may cause damage to the towing system and the vehicle’s braking system.

Blue Ox recommends installing the ToadStop™ or Toad Stop™ II braking systems for vehicles equipped with continuous power assist brakes.

If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Blue Ox® 24/7 Customer Care Team at (402) 385-3051 or Toll Free at (888) 425-5382.