

11 March 2021

**Waka Kotahi NZ Transport
Agency**
Private Bag 11777
Palmerston North 4442
New Zealand
www.nzta.govt.nz

Action required for the brake system in your vehicle

Plate number	VIN	Make	Model	Year
SPUDS2	JNBCWB45100K00667	NISSAN DIESEL	CW380	2004

Our records show you are the registered owner of the above vehicle with a Sanwa Seiki park brake system. This letter is to advise you Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency has significant safety concerns about the park brake system in your vehicle and we ask you to take action now to ensure the safety of you and other road users.

These park brake systems, prevalent in some heavy trucks produced between 1993 and 2005, have three key characteristics that lead to our concerns:

- the location of the park brake lever on the driver's right (next to the driver's door) makes it susceptible to being knocked as the driver climbs in and out of the vehicle, unintentionally releasing the park brake. The location of the control valve also makes it more susceptible to contaminants getting into the operating mechanism;
- the operating mechanism is prone to wear over time that is not immediately apparent from a visual inspection and this is aggravated by the location of the lever;
- When the operating mechanism is worn, operators of the vehicle may believe the park brake has fully engaged when it hasn't.

Park brake failures from the above issues have resulted in a number of incidents with some causing deaths and serious injuries. The clear safety risk is why Waka Kotahi is taking the action outlined in this letter.

We have assessed the safety risks with these components and a mandatory replacement of the original Sanwa Seki park brake control valve is required. You will have a number of options for an alternative park brake control valve and we suggest you discuss this with your service provider to find the best solution for you.

We have weighed up the risk factors against the practical constraints of such a wide scale call to action, and on the information we currently hold, we have decided to allow a grace period until 1 September 2021 for the park brake control valve to be retrofitted and certified. You may continue to use your vehicle during the grace period.

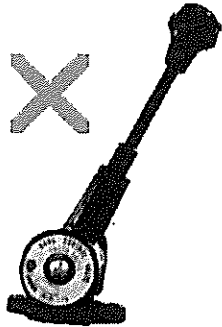
If the vehicle have not been retrofitted and certified as compliant by the end of the grace period we will need to prevent the vehicle from obtaining further Certificates of Fitness (CoF) on the grounds that the existing park brake system means the vehicle cannot be operated safely.

SANWA SEKI PARK BRAKE CONTROL VALVE

Replacement guidance for owners

What you need to do

The factory-supplied Sanwa-Seki Park Brake Control Valve (see photo below) must be replaced with an alternative park brake control valve, preferably by one that is mounted to



the left of the driver's seat and that also has a graduated control action.

Moving the control valve to the left side of the driver's seated position will reduce the risk of the valve failing due to dirt, dust or contamination of the mechanism and/or the park brake unintentionally disengaging.

Fitting a new valve that has a graduated control will give the driver a chance to apply the park brake in a controlled and progressive manner, especially in an emergency.



Note: The sample picture is for guidance only and shows a new graduated control valve mounted on a console that houses another unit. In this case, an auxiliary control mounting box has been used to provide a secure and convenient position for the valve.

You will need to arrange with your service provider, workshop or dealer to have the replacement work done as soon as practicable and they will need to engage a heavy vehicle brake certifier. There are a number of options available for the replacement control valve so between them, they will recommend the best option that suits your needs.

Once the work has been completed and the heavy vehicle brake certifier has lodged an LT400 certification for the replacement control valve, the vehicle will then be able to be presented for its regular CoF inspection.