

Subject: Disc Pad Shims

Vehicle Involved: All vehicles equipped with heat / pressure reactive adhesive shims.

Condition: Many disc brake friction applications both foreign and domestic utilize a heat and pressure sensitive constrained layer shim. The self-stick backing is exposed when you peel the protective layer off of the shim. See Figure 1. In some cases, a dimple located in the backing plate is a reference point that corresponds with a protrusion in the shim. For obvious reasons the surface area of the brake disc pad must be clean, dry and free of foreign materials such as brake fluid, or caliper lubrication. When applying the constrained layer shim to the backing plate of the disc pad, use pressure to hold them firmly in place. The adhesion process will greatly be assisted by applying the brake pedal and holding for 10 to 15 seconds prior to test driving the vehicle. See figure 2. The process will be complete when driving the vehicle. Plenty of heat is generated from a normal test drive to stimulate and finish the adhesion process. It is never required to “burnish” the brake pads on a test drive. The friction material has been post cured. Additional information is available regarding proper lubrication procedures in Bulletin 03-08.



Figure 1.



Figure 2.