

Technical Information

Tech Tip #011

October 1, 1998

Procedure for Using Semi-Fluid Lubricants with Sentinel® & Stamped Steel Hub Caps

SENTINEL®

Recent interest in the use of semi-fluid lubricants has prompted STEMCO to develop a procedure for adding lubricant to the Sentinel® grease hub caps to provide added lubrication to the outer bearing. Adherence to this procedure should result in longer wheel end life and improved performance. Addition of lubricant should be completed as follows:

1. Holding the hub cap as shown (Figure 1), fill the lower side of the hub cap until level with the inner edge of the mounting flange and the edge of the vent mechanism. Table 1 provides the approximate volume of lubricant necessary for each hub cap part number. **DO NOT COVER THE VENT MECHANISM WITH LUBRICANT!** This will result in “filming” or seepage of lubricant from the vent onto the external face of the hub cap during initial operation.
2. Install the hub cap quickly to prevent spilling the lubricant.

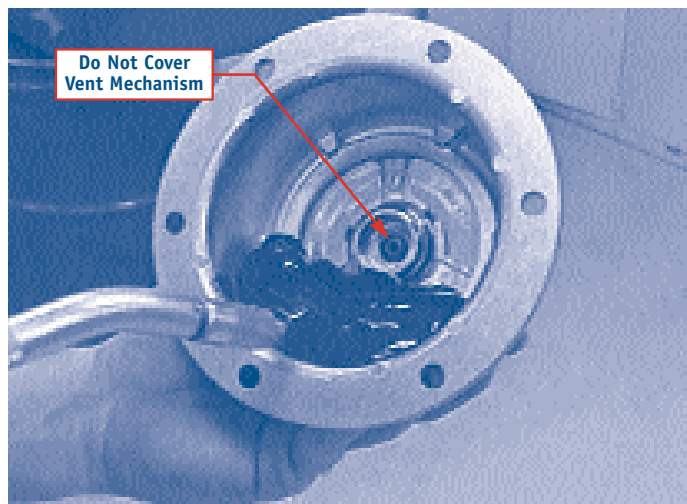


Figure 1 Fill Level for Semi-Fluid Lubricant

Sentinel® Application	Aprox. Fluid Ounces of Lubricant
349-4009	3.5
349-4013	3.5
349-4046	2.9
349-4075	7.2
349-4095	2.4
349-4195	6.8

Table 1 Lubricant Quantity for Each Application



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STAMPED STEEL HUB CAPS

STEMCO Stamped Steel Hub Caps are zinc dichromate plated to provide corrosion protection and a superior finish. While the plating provides ample protection in most instances, there are conditions which can accelerate corrosion beyond the capability of the plating. For this reason, STEMCO recommends that all stamped steel hub caps be internally coated prior to installation, except for the vent, with a thin layer of lubricant. Coating should be performed as follows:

1. Using a clean brush or your hand (Figure 2), wipe the inner surfaces of the stamped hub cap with a thin layer of lubricant until all areas are covered as shown. **DO NOT COVER THE VENT MECHANISM WITH LUBRICANT!** This will result in “filming” or seepage of lubricant from the vent onto the external face of the hub cap during initial operation, and may clog the vent in some cases.
2. For this purpose, NLGI grade 2 or 3 hard pack greases are the preferred lubricants, as they do not flow and will maintain coverage of the plating on the internal surface of the hub cap.
3. Install the hub cap per normal installation practices.
4. Use this procedure on all STEMCO Stamped Steel Hub Caps listed in Table 2.

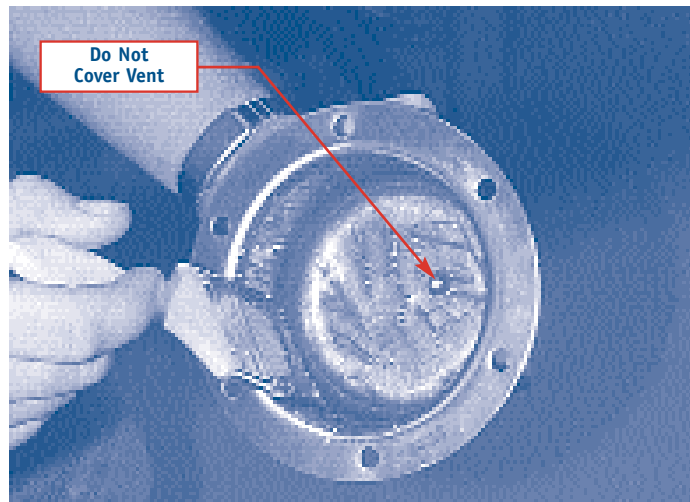


Figure 2 Coating Inside of Stamped Steel Hub Cap

Stamped Steel Hub Caps
340-5096
340-5097
340-5098
340-0044

Table 2



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