

Identifying a Non-Leaking Seal and Leaking Seal

This Tech Tip is to help customers correctly identify a non-leaking seal and leaking seal to prevent unnecessary down time.

A small amount of visible lubricant seepage on the backside of STEMCO seals is considered normal and acceptable. We often see this in new seals that we test every day. This is not unusual, and it does not mean that the seal is leaking. This seepage is most likely a result of grease prelube escaping from a newly installed seal. Our factory places this grease prelube into the seal upon assembly to reduce the frictional heat generation upon seal "run-in". If the visible seepage extends well out onto the hub and is quite damp, then the seal may be leaking and should be replaced at the first opportunity.

Additional information can be found on TMC RP631C for leaking and non-leaking wheel seals.



FIGURE 1: Non-Leaking Seal



FIGURE 2: Non-Leaking Seal



FIGURE 3: Non-Leaking Seal



FIGURE 4: Leaking - Change Seal