Technical Service Bulletin

Cobra Motorcycle Mfg.

240 Uran street
Hillsdale, MI 49242

(517) 437-9100 phone
(517) 437-9101 fax

TSB01211 CX65 Rear Brake Bleeding Procedure

Many customers of the 2011 CX65 have experienced a 'soft' brake pedal after riding their motorcycle through the break-in procedure. The cause has been tracked back to an air pocket trapped in the rear caliper that is very difficult to remove through normal brake bleeding procedures. The process below includes three steps: 1) Free bleeding, 2) Vacuum bleeding, and finally, 3) Back bleeding. The Vacuum bleed process requires, at minimum, a 35ml syringe (available at medical supply stores or through Cobra – p/n BCMU0210). Upon successfully completing the process below, the brakes should return to proper function.

Tools Required:

1) Syringe (or other power bleed tool)
2) 8mm open-end wrench
3) 3mm hex wrench
4) Paper towels

Step 1: Clean bike and set on stand (preferably one that elevates the motorcycle to a comfortable working height.

Step 2: Remove the reservoir cap with a 3mm hex key.

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Step 3: Using an 8mm wrench, loosen bleed screw and let system ‘free bleed’. The system should weep a small amount of fluid through the bleed hole. If no fluid emerges, this indicates that the pick-up vent between the reservoir and the master cylinder piston is blocked. If you determine that the vent is blocked, ensure that there is free play between the plunger (adjustable rod on the back of the brake pedal) and the master cylinder. If there is none, then the master cylinder piston is blocking the reservoir vent hole. Always ensure that there is a small amount of free play between the pedal and master cylinder or else replacement fluid will be blocked from traveling between the reservoir and the brake line.

Step 4: Top off reservoir with Dot 4 or higher brake fluid.

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Step 5: Use a syringe or other suitable device to vacuum bleed the system. Make sure that enough fluid stays in the reservoir so as to not pull any more air into the system.

Step 6: Fill the syringe with brake fluid and make sure the feed tube is free of air.

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Step 7: Place a protective wrapping around the master cylinder and frame.
Caution: Silicone brake fluid can damage paint and other finishes, so be careful.

Step 8: Back bleed the system by pushing brake fluid through the caliper and into the master cylinder. Allow fluid to spill over the top of the master cylinder until no more air bubbles emerge.

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Step 9: Tighten the bleed screw, top off fluid, and replace the master cylinder cover. Depress the brake lever by hand a few times…it should immediately feel better. Repeat the process if you feel air is still trapped.