

Bulletin BPI 06-09

Subject: Ceramic Brake Pads

Vehicle Involved: Imports and Domestic Cars and Light Trucks

Condition: Noise and brake dust

Repair Procedure: Install Premium Ceramic Friction Material

Ceramic friction material has the ability to solve brake performance problems because of its many desirable characteristics.

A premium product ceramic friction material combines the durability and heat conductivity found in many semi-metallic pads with the noise reduction qualities of non-asbestos organic pads, without the black brake dust.

Ceramic pads have a material content of between 5% and 10% porcelain like compound, copper, brass, and plastic, among other content combinations. There are two primary forces pushing the aftermarket toward ceramic pads, the increasing number of new vehicles being originally equip with ceramic pads, and aftermarket installers preference for ceramic formulations.

Approximately 60 percent of all new passenger cars and trucks sold in North America are now equipped with ceramic brake pads.

Professional installers like ceramic pads because they can duplicate original equipment formula, and are quieter and smoother than semi-metallic pads during initial break-in.

That means customers are less likely to bring their cars back to the shop for warranty work, which cuts into installers profits.