



**Technical Service
Information Bulletin**
February 4, 2013

**Subject:
braking
systems
troubleshooting**

TSIB number 142

If a customer reports any of the following symptoms with their towed car after a Roadmaster braking system installation, then your logical first step should be an examination of the stop light switch.

Symptom #1

The car has no power and doesn't accelerate normally.

If the stop light switch has not been positioned, attached or adjusted properly, it may interfere with the vehicle's 'Brake Override' system. Brake Override is a safety feature that cancels acceleration while the brakes are being applied. (This is the design solution to the 'stuck accelerator' recall by Toyota and other car manufacturers.)

Brake Override is called into play when acceleration occurs simultaneously to braking (a driver's logical response to a stuck accelerator). In this situation, Brake Override disables the accelerator input until the brake is released.

An improperly positioned, attached or adjusted stop light switch may cause the Brake Override to 'think' the brakes are on, when they are not. In this case, the customer may claim the vehicle feels like it has no power and won't accelerate properly.

Symptom #2

The car's cruise control doesn't work.

In a properly-functioning car, simply depressing the brakes turns off the cruise control. If the stop light switch isn't adjusted properly, then the stop light switch may 'think' you are braking thereby preventing the cruise control from functioning.

Symptom #3

The brake monitor light says the towed car's brakes are on, but they should not be.

All of Roadmaster's brake monitor systems use either the factory stop light switch or our aftermarket stop light switch to send a signal to the RV's monitor. If the stop light switch isn't set up properly, or if the mounting bracket for the switch gets nudged out of position during installation, then the monitor system will falsely indicate the brakes are on.

Solution for all three symptoms

Examine the stop light switch.

Make certain the stop light switch is firmly mounted and secured in the correct location. Then adjust the switch so that it only sends a signal when the brake pedal arm is actually being depressed.