



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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When Brake Fluid Goes Bad: Now There's a Simple Test to Prevent Lost Stopping Power

It's called **BrakeStrip™**. And its purpose is to detect a potential danger many car owners aren't even aware of: the lost ability of their Anti-Lock Braking System to stop their vehicles, caused by the breakdown of brake fluid anti-corrosion properties. More bluntly put: when brake fluid no longer protects ABS components, brakes can fail. And it happens more often than people realize—resulting in accidents, injuries and costly repairs.

BrakeStrip, by Phoenix Systems, is a fast and easy new test designed to prevent this from happening. To perform it, you simply open the hood, remove the cap on the brake fluid reservoir and briefly dip the litmus-looking test strip into the fluid. After a minute, compare the color of the test strip with the color guide on the package. If the strip turns purple, it indicates that the brake fluid is bad and a brake flush service is required.

"Anyone can do this," said Jon Petty, Technical Director for Phoenix Systems. "It's as easy as checking your oil." In fact, Petty adds that it's a good way to remind yourself—and smart preventive maintenance—if you check your brake fluid whenever your car is ready for an oil change. Giving vehicles owners the ability to monitor the condition of their own brake fluid is an important step in helping them maintain peak stopping power and drive with peace of mind.

The new **BrakeStrip** test is based on Phoenix's FASCAR® technology, which detects the amount of copper present in your brake fluid. According to Motorist Assurance Program (MAP) guidelines, if the copper level exceeds 200 parts per million, it means your brake fluid's corrosion inhibitors have lost their effectiveness and damage to ABS components is likely to occur. At the least, this can mean expensive repair or replacement of brake parts. Worst case scenario, your brakes can malfunction, especially in an emergency situation, extending your stopping distance and triggering accidents that could have been avoided.

BrakeStrip™ tests are available at AutoZone and other fine automotive retailers, as well as at www.brakestrip.net on the web. For those who prefer to have their brake fluid tested by a service technician, the test is also available at automotive service centers nationwide.

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