

# Sound Solutions No. 00-017

#### CTRL Systems, Inc. Best Practices

## Industry

Transportation, Trucking and Busing

## Application

Air Leak Detection

#### System

Air Bag Suspension

# Component

Air Bags, Air Lines, and Air Fittings

#### **Current Procedures**

When checking for leaks start with the air bags. You will need to look at the bottom section of the bag, to do this you will want to jack the vehicle up to extend the bags. Look for dry rot and wear. Check lines in places with mounts or couplers.

Check the line coming out of the air compressor, there are small o-rings that often will break or rot. Another good trick to finding a leak, as long as you have a working compressor, is to cover your air system in soapy water and watch for bubbles.

### CTRL's Sound Solution.

- 1. After a short training lesson of familiarization and application of CTRL's UL101, the maintenance technician selects the UL101 receiver, headset, and concentrator from kit.
- 2. Verify operation of UL101 in accordance with the operator's manual.
- 3. Ensure air bag suspension system is aligned and operating properly.
- 4. Begin at one end of the air bag suspension system. Point the UL101 receiver in the direction of the valves, fittings, lines and air bags under pressure and walk along while scanning with the receiver.
- 5. An air leak is indicated by a jump in the meter and a loud rushing sound through the headset.
- 6. Once an air leak is detected, pinpoint by adjusting the potentiometer down to locate the exact source of the leak.
- 7. Indicate the leak location and issue a work order for repair. Verify repairs with UL101.

#### Benefit

Checking truck, tailor and bus air bag suspension systems using the current procedure above can take several hours to find small leaks especially looking for bubbles using soapy water.

With a working air bag suspension compressor the UL101 is much faster and more effective at locating air leaks, even during peak shop operation and in all types of weather conditions. Leak location and identification is not impeded by ambient noise therefore, less guess work is involved with location. More leaks can be found and properly identified for repair, decreasing lost road time due to missed leaks in the air bag suspension system. Monitoring with the UL101 provides instantaneous real-time information.

