

# Automotive TechTips

**TIMKEN**  
Where You Turn

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Maximizing bearing performance and life remains an objective throughout The Timken Company, from design teams and manufacturing associates to our field sales team and distributors. TechTips help you install and maintain Timken® bearings, seals and components to maximize the life and performance of your bearings and the systems in which they operate. For more information regarding Timken automotive products and services, visit [www.timken.com](http://www.timken.com) or contact your local Timken distributor.

## HUB ASSEMBLIES: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### 1. Why are more vehicles using hub assemblies today?

Hub assemblies are unitized, maintenance free and non-serviceable units that are pre-set, pre-greased and pre-sealed, making installation easier and increasing product reliability for enhanced performance. These hubs require no maintenance or handling, which eliminates the need for preventative maintenance, grease and/or future adjustments.

### 2. Why buy Timken hub assemblies?

Timken is a brand you can trust. As a leader in hub technology for original equipment manufacturers, Timken is also a leader in the automotive aftermarket. We have a complete line of hub assemblies for ABS and non-ABS vehicles, with or without SENSOR-PAC™ bearings, UNIPAC™ or UNIPAC-PLUS™ bearings.

### 3. Are all aftermarket hub assemblies created equal?

The hub assemblies sold by The Timken Corporation meet or exceed original equipment specifications. Other hub assembly suppliers might meet the dimensional measure requirements for original equipment specifications, but they do not match the material and/or performance standards.



#### 4. Can I use an impact wrench to remove or install a hub assembly?

While it may appear to be easier to use an impact wrench, it is not recommended. We recommend the use of a certified, calibrated torque wrench. Impact wrenches can damage the axle nut, threads and components. It can also create a false sense

of security when adjusting a nut or bolt, which may be under- or overtorqued. This can leave a hub assembly susceptible to failure.

#### 5. Do I need to torque the axle nut and/or the lug nut?

Yes. It is imperative that you follow the manufacturer's specifications and/or instruction manual to assure the hub is installed correctly.

Failure to follow the manufacturer's



installation instructions and follow the proper installation procedures can cause equipment failure, creating a risk of serious bodily harm.

#### 6. Can I replace the bearings or seals in my hub assembly?

No, because the hub assemblies are unitized, maintenance free and non-serviceable. Most hub assemblies are designed with a unitized bearing or flange that is intricate to the hub and/or bearing housing, which are not replaceable.

#### 7. Do wheel studs come with all hub assemblies?

No. While most hub assemblies do include the wheel studs, there are some that do not. Timken does not recommend reusing the old studs with the new hub assembly.

**⚠ WARNING** Failure to observe the following warnings could create a risk of serious injury.

Proper maintenance and handling procedures are critical. Always follow installation instructions and maintain proper lubrication.

Never spin a bearing with compressed air. The rollers may be forcefully expelled.

*This information is not intended to substitute for the specific recommendations of your equipment suppliers.*

*Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this writing, but no liability is accepted for errors, omissions or for any other reason.*

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