



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS?

**Q.** *Will the Carlisle HydraStar work with the 2008 or later Ford Tow Command; factory-integrated brake controller?*

**A.** NO. Ford Motor Company has specified that their brake controller is to be used with electric brakes only; therefore, the Carlisle HydraStar is not compatible with the 2008 and later Ford Tow Command. Carlisle recommends installing an approved aftermarket controller. Please refer to the list of HydraStar Controllers.

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**Q.** *Will the Carlisle HydraStar work with the GM integrated brake controller?*

**A.** NO. General Motors has specified that their brake controller is to be used with electric brakes only. Carlisle recommends installing an approved aftermarket controller. Please refer to the list of HydraStar Controllers.

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**Q.** *Can I use the HBA-CAM with my 2008 or later Ford or any GM factory brake controller?*

**A.** NO. The HBA-CAM was designed to be used with 2005-2007 model Carlisle HydraStars and the 2005-2007 Ford Tow Command brake controller. (The HBA-CAM may also be used for selected aftermarket controllers on pre-2007 model Carlisle HydraStars.)

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**Q.** *How do I know which HydraStar unit to use with my trailer?*

**A.** A rule of thumb is to use the HBA-10 (1000psi) for drum brakes on single or tandem axle trailers. Use the HBA-12 (1200psi) for disc brakes on axles rated up to 8000lbs. Use the HBA-16 (1600psi) for all Dexter disc brakes and Hayes disc or drum brakes. Always check with the brake manufacturer for pressure requirements.  
IMPORTANT: Do not exceed the brake manufacturers' recommended maximum operating pressure.

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**Q.** *How long has the HydraStar been on the market?*

**A.** The Carlisle HydraStar has been on the market for over 10 years. The current models are seventh generation, released in January of 2007.

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**Q.** *My Carlisle HydraStar trailer brake actuator does not work?*

**A.** First, confirm that the in-cab controller being used is approved on the Carlisle HydraStar Controllers list. Next, refer to the Troubleshooting Guide located in your service manual (also available on-line at [www.carlislebrake.com](http://www.carlislebrake.com)). If the unit still does not work (or fails any troubleshooting test), please contact the dealer, distributor, or trailer OEM from which the product was purchased.



- Q.** *Is it acceptable to wire the Carlisle HydraStar differently from the electrical schematic published in the Service Manual?*
- A.** NO. Carlisle recommends connecting the HydraStar according to the electrical schematic located in your service manual. Failure to follow these guidelines will damage the HydraStar unit and void your warranty.
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- Q.** *Can I use other manufactures' breakaway systems with the Carlisle HydraStar?*
- A.** YES. The only breakaway system tested not compatible with the Carlisle HydraStar is the Hoppy/Tap Model 200099 and 20400 breakaway kits. These kits can result in the trailer brakes dragging or not releasing at all.

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