



**NUMBER:** 02-001-15

**GROUP:** Front Suspension

**DATE:** January 10, 2015

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***SUBJECT:***

Shock Strut Weeping Condition Identification

***OVERVIEW:***

This bulletin involves correctly diagnosing strut or shock absorber conditions involving fluid residue on the external surface.

***SYMPTOM/CONDITION:***

The customer may describe fluid residue on the external surface of the strut or shock absorber.

***DISCUSSION:***

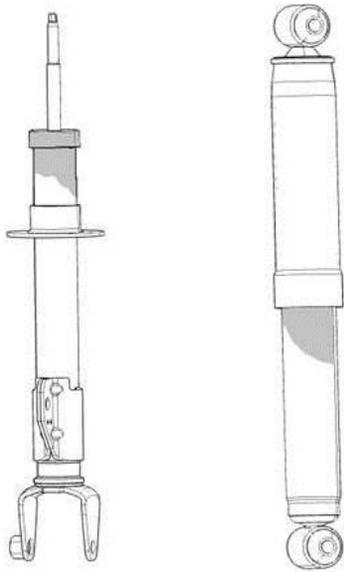
Strut/Shock absorber piston rod seals perform 3 functions:

1. Provide sealing of internal fluid.
2. Seal the shock from dust and contamination in the environment.
3. Self lubricate by applying a thin film of fluid to the piston rod.

**NOTE: Residual fluid near the rod seal at the top of the strut/shock is normal. Only when there is noticeable dripping of fluid down the strut/shock should replacement be considered.**

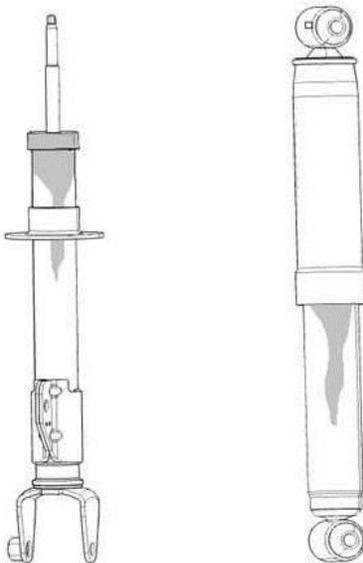
Use the following images as a guideline for strut/shock replacement.

Light fluid film in the top one-third of the strut/shock is considered normal (Fig. 1). Strut/Shock replacement not recommended, provided the strut/shock is functioning (dampening) as designed.



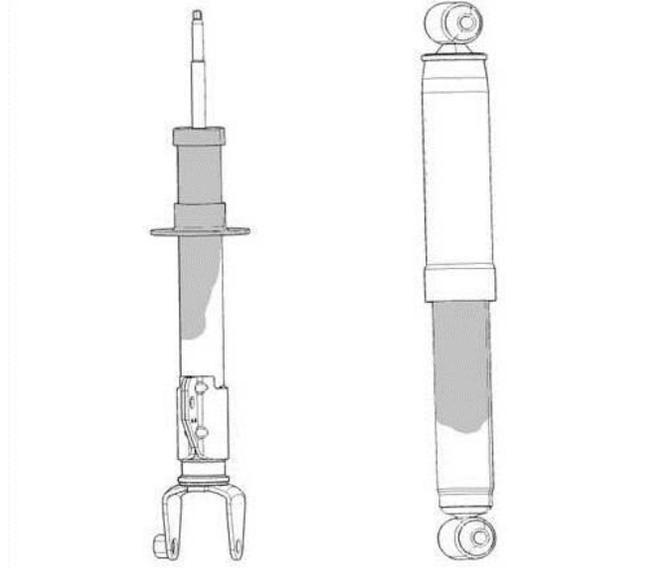
**Fig. 1 Light Fluid Film - Replacement Not Recommended**

Minor weep - drops of shock fluid extending down beyond one-third or more of the strut/shock body length (Fig. 2). Strut/Shock replacement is recommended.



**Fig. 2 Minor Weep - Replacement Recommended**

Major weep - fluid covers two-thirds or more of the strut/shock body length (Fig. 3). Strut/Shock replacement is recommended.



***Fig. 3 Major Weep - Replacement Recommended***

***FAILURE CODE:***  
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