

Railway Fundamentals – The Vacuum Brake.

Self-test Questions

1. How many pounds per square inch pressure does normal atmospheric pressure equate to?
A: 14 psi
2. How high in inches would the column of mercury in a barometer rise with a perfect vacuum above at normal air pressure?
A: 29 inches.
3. What is the pipe that runs down the train working on the vacuum system called?
A: the train pipe.
4. What level of vacuum does WSR train normally work to as a maximum?
A: 21 inches.
5. Is this different for GWR locomotives?
A: Yes, 25 inches.
6. What is the alternative name for the guard's brake valve?
A: A setter.
7. What is the perforated part of the driver's brake valve called?
A: The pepperpot
8. How many brake cylinders are there on WSR passenger coaches?
A: Two.
9. What does 'DA' stand?
A: Direct Admission.
10. 'Sliding band' is one type of brake cylinder, what is the other?
A: Rolling Ring.