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BLUDOT COPPER NICKEL BRAKE LINE

A Specification Growing in Popularity

For over 40 years Bludot Manufacturing has supplied brake systems to trailer manufacturers, distributors and repair facilities. When it comes to hydraulic trailer brake lines Bludot offers double-wall brazed, low-carbon steel tubing with a standard OD finish of Aluminum Galfan (AG), stainless steel for high-end, corrosion protection and its newest offering copper nickel brake lines.

Popular since the 1970s in automotive applications in Europe, copper nickel provides a more affordable alternative for hydraulic trailer brake lines with much of the corrosion resistance of stainless steel. Copper nickel brake lines are U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) approved for hydraulic use. The material is more flexible than corrosion resistant stainless steel resulting in easier brake line installations on the assembly line for OEMs. Copper nickel's more flexible properties also lends itself to easier line installations or replacements when dealing with routing complicated line paths in the OEM factory or the mechanic's shop. OEMs can further improve their production efficiencies with custom bent copper nickel line kits.



A typical, tough brake line routing path to which copper nickel provides an easier replacement solution.

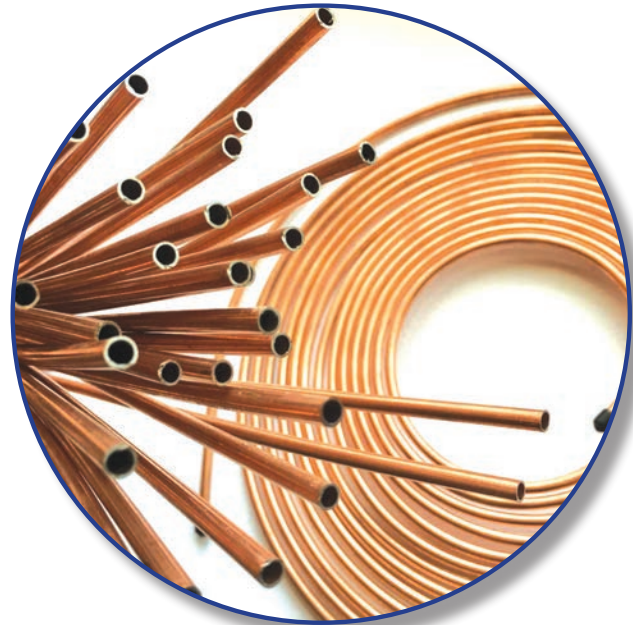
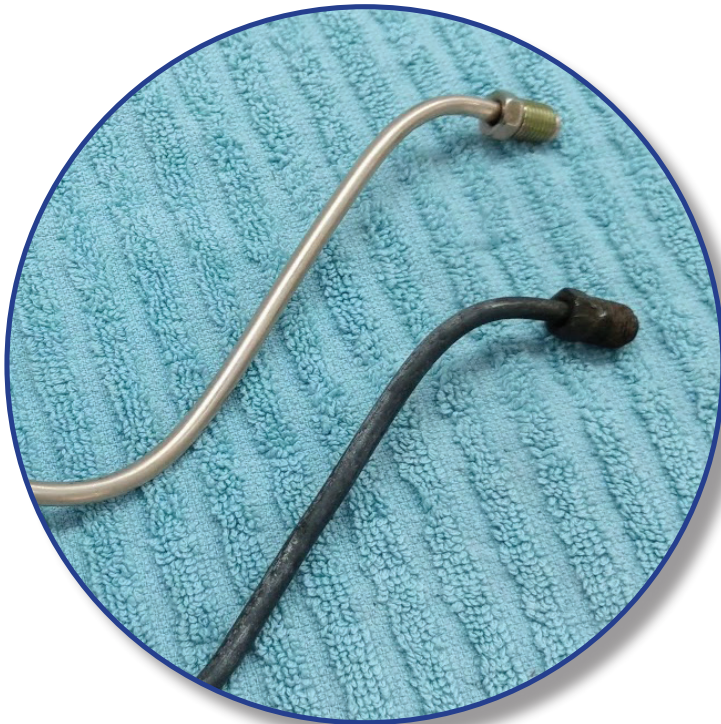
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Copper Nickel Facts from Bludot Manufacturing

- Copper nickel has been popular in European cars since the 1970s
- Copper nickel brake lines are DOT approved for hydraulic use
- PSI ratings for copper nickel are only a little lower than stainless steel
- Copper nickel brake lines are more affordable than the stainless steel brake lines
- Copper nickel has proven to be easier to work with than stainless steel brake lines
- Copper nickel brake lines are softer than stainless steel which allows for better flexibility in tough routing situations
- End-forms and flares are easy to create for with copper nickel when compared to stainless steel
- The hardness of stainless steel is difficult to work with on the assembly line
- Copper nickel is able to bend and flare to create a tighter seal



Copper Nickel Corrosion Resistance Properties

- Copper nickel brake lines offer strong corrosion resistance both inside and outside
- Road salt and grime is ineffective at rusting the brake line since the brake line is 88.7% copper
- Normal stainless steel has to be coated in corrosion resistant material that gets scratched and fades over time, which allows for rust
- Copper nickel will not rust because the copper does not hold and absorb moisture
- Stainless steel brake lines eventually rust inside since there is no coating to protect the lines from absorbing the moisture
- Copper nickel's ability to avoid moisture leads to a longer life span against wear and tear
- Bludot still continues to provide stainless steel to our customers who require it, but we do recommend copper nickel as a great cost-effective alternative
- Bludot offers aluminum galfan, copper nickel, and stainless steel brake lines. Learn more at www.trailerbrakes.com

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