

## DESCRIPTION (Continued)

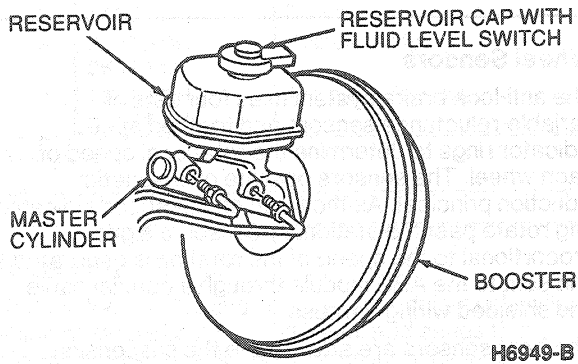
**Brake Booster-To-Master Cylinder Push Rod**

The vacuum booster push rod (output rod) is not adjustable. If the push rod length is incorrect, replace the booster assembly.

**Master Cylinder**

The master cylinder is a tandem master cylinder. The primary (rear) circuit feeds the RH front and LH rear brakes. The secondary circuit (front) feeds the LH front and RH rear brakes. It is serviced as a complete assembly.

The master cylinder reservoir is a clear translucent plastic container with three main chambers. An integral fluid level switch is part of the reservoir cap assembly, with one electrical connector pointing rearward for wire harness connection. A low pressure hose is attached to the reservoir which feeds brake fluid to the hydraulic control unit reservoir. The reservoir and cap are serviced separately.

**Hydraulic Control Unit (HCU)****3.0L, 3.8L and 3.0L/3.2L SHO**

The HCU is located in the front of the engine compartment on the LH side of the vehicle. It attaches to a bracket that is mounted to the LH front inside rail inside the engine compartment. On Taurus / Sable vehicles, the battery and battery tray sit on top of the HCU mounting bracket. On Taurus SHO vehicles, the ABS electronic control unit sits on top of the HCU mounting bracket. The HCU consists of a valve body assembly, pump and motor assembly, and a brake fluid reservoir with fluid level indicator assembly. During normal braking, fluid from the master cylinder enters the HCU through two inlet ports located at the rear of the HCU. The fluid then passes through four normally open inlet valves, one to each wheel. (Refer to the Hydraulic Schematic.) If the ABS module senses that a wheel is about to lock, the ABS module activates the appropriate inlet valve which closes that valve. This prevents any more fluid from entering the affected brake. The ABS module then looks at the wheel again. If it is still decelerating, the ABS module then opens the normally closed outlet valve which decreases the pressure trapped in the line. The valve body, pump and motor, and reservoir are serviced separately. Other than seals and gaskets, no internal parts can be serviced.

**Acid Shield**

On Taurus / Sable a rubber acid shield is used to protect the HCU and wiring in case of major battery damage. It attaches to the top of the HCU mounting bracket with three plastic push pins. There is also a rubber drain tube that is attached to the HCU mounting bracket. It allows leaking battery acid to drain to the ground.

