SECTION 08-01 Clutch/Pressure Plate

VEHICLE APPLICATION

Taurus With 3.0L SHO Engine.

DESCRIPTION AND OPERATION

The primary function of the clutch system is to couple and uncouple engine power to the transaxle upon driver command.

The clutch system cutaway is in the engaged (pedal released) position and identifies the individual components and their functions. In this position, engine output is coupled to the transaxle input shaft by the friction that exists between the clutch disc facings and the flywheel/pressure plate assembly. The extent of this friction is directly related to the composition of the facing material and the magnitude of the clamping forces exerted by the pressure plate and flywheel on the facings. These are the factors that limit the amount of torque that can be transmitted without slippage. The clamping force is obtained from a Belleville spring contained within the pressure plate assembly.