Railway Friction Materials

Composite Disc Brake Pads

Composite disc brake pads are extensively used in the rail passenger market covering all operational duties up to a maximum speed of 300 km/h. It is therefore very important that product development activities not only are market oriented to comply with national standards and operational requirements, but they are also application specific in order to offer the most cost effective performance package.

Disc brake pads for metro applications fulfil different performance requirements to the ones developed for high speed duties. One of the differences in design parameters between the two duties is the level of conformability of the disc brake pad. In high speed applications for example, a brake pad should be able to evenly dissipate the heat generated during braking, to avoid any hot spots which could lead to disc cracking.

In addition to conformability level, one should also consider the following design parameters as part of the product development activities:

(i) Consistent frictional performance under wet and dry conditions
(ii) Cost-effective operation
(iii) Environmental impacts

MLP Friction Braking Limited with many years of hands-on experience in this product development area can provide the necessary technical support and assistance to its clients to develop such composite disc brake pads to meet the requirements of UIC 541-3 leaflet.

If you would like more information about this product development consultancy service, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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