

Acme Seat Bracket Company By Charles Snodgrass Nesbitt

While driving his 1959 Rover P4 100 John Booth noticed that the front seat always appeared to move. His Wife Dawn had complained that when he pushed in the clutch she shot forward and when he released the clutch she shot back. If there was no one on the passenger side this was made even worse. Puzzled by this Booth approached Clyde Wyatt a more learned member of the Rover Club. Wyatt suggested to Booth that he approach a government consultant and ask him to investigate. Booth thought this was a good idea and at one million rand per day it seemed a bargain. After a series of strikes and many visits to the government CFK Chicken Takeaway the team concluded that the seat relies on gravity to keep it in place. They further added that this may be all very well in the Northern Hemisphere, but since we drive our cars upside down in the Southern Hemisphere the effects of gravity are far less. Thus we now know why the seat moves.

So Booth, seeing a business opportunity, decided that he would endeavour to make a bracket that would hold the seat firm. If this worked he believed he could go Southern Hemisphere wide. Booth opted to make two prototypes. One he would fit to his Rover and the other one to go into the Wyatt Rover, this way he could be sure Rover seats are of universal construction. A quick call to the Wyatt household was met with suspicion, however a chocolate cake would seal the deal.

Loose seat due to diminished gravity

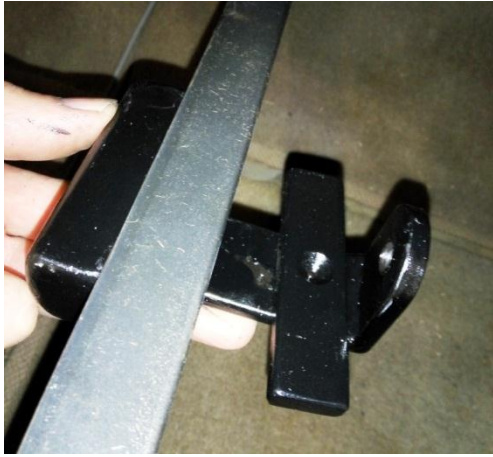


So Booth set about producing a bracket. There would be two brackets per car. One for the drivers side and one for the passenger side. The bigger block slots into the seat frame. The next block is a spacer. The bolt pushes the thin block against the seat. The seat is then locked into place by the spacer.

So here it is in all its glory. The Acme Seat Bracket



Here the bracket slots into the seat base channel. The thin block has a tapered hole. The bolt is ground to a point and locks into this plate.



The bracket is fitted with the seat in place. Normally takes less than a minute to fit unless we dealing with the Wyatt front seat.



So Booth fitted his bracket with spectacular success. No movement. The Rover was transformed into a sleek sports saloon, 100mph corners were no problem. Taxies could be overtaken.

Driven by his success Booth, eager to see that the bracket was universal and would fit all Rovers, wasted no time in heading for the lofty heights of Howick where the aforementioned Clyde Wyatt awaited. After the chocolate cake deal was done Booth attempted to fit the seat brackets. The driver's side bracket, with much pulling and pushing, finally went in after around 5 minutes. The passenger side would just not go in even after 15 minutes of struggling.

Booth's dreams of a multi-million dollar empire were fading fast. Then by stroke of genius he noticed that the seat was not sitting straight in its housing. Wyatt admitted that he had read in the local newspaper that Roving Robbers were operating in the area. Misinterpreting this as Rover Robbers he had opted to spend the night guarding his beloved Rover. He had decided that the front seat was the best option so that, expecting the inevitable, he could keep his big toe on the horn. On leaving the Rover the next morning he had failed to notice that the seat had moved out of position. After repositioning the seat and within 2 minutes both brackets were in. It had worked!!!

Such was the delight that Wyatt offered a substantial investment sum.

A happy Clyde Wyatt holding his share certificate. 1000 shares at one shilling a share. He said the cheque was in the post....



Another potential customer checking the stock market page.



Some Interesting facts the word Acme is not associated with a facial blemish but rather refers to something that has been developed to its pinnacle of excellence. It was a common word used around 1910 into the 1920's and was included in very many adverts and became a real buzz word. Probably comparable to the word 'super' that was used by much of the private school fraternity of the 1980's. It was said by many who rolled it off their lips with the most posh accent that they could muster.... It was super this or super that and what a super chap he is and so on. So Ladies and Gents I end off with this statement "I say old chap what a super article".

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