



## **INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

### **DRAG RACE STRUT**

**1979-1993 FORD MUSTANG, 1987-88 THUNDERBIRD, 1980-82 COUGAR**

**P/N: C2806**

This strut is designed to replace the factory front strut assembly found in 1979-1993 Mustangs. The computer designed valving in this strut will allow the front end to rise rapidly on initial launch for maximum traction. It will then let the nose slowly settle to standard ride height for improved top end handling.

### **WARNING! This strut is intended for drag race use only!**

NOTE: Read this instruction sheet and any instructions printed on the small parts package carefully prior to removing the struts from the vehicle.

Do not grip the polished piston rod with any type of tool. Nicks and scratches on the rod will cause decreased service life.

### **UNIT IS GAS PRESSURIZED. DO NOT HEAT OR CUT OPEN!**

## **INSTALLATION**

1. Open hood and loosen the 16mm upper rod-retaining nut. Do not remove completely. Use a large screwdriver to keep strut rod from rotating while loosening the nut.
2. When removing gas charged units, it may be necessary to remove the upper mounting plate by removing the three small nuts securing it to the body. Do not remove the mounting plate if it is not necessary.

NOTE: If the strut mount is removed a re-alignment will be required.

3. Raise the front of the vehicle using a floor jack under the lower control arm and position a jack stand under the frame-jacking pad behind the front wheel.
4. Position the floor jack as close to the brake rotor as possible.
5. Remove and save the two lower nuts and bolts that attach the spindle to the strut unit. It may be necessary to remove the brake caliper from the rotor to allow access.

*For Technical Assistance, call Competition Engineering's Tech Line at  
(203) 458-0542, 8:30am-5:00pm Eastern Time*

### **COMPETITION ENGINEERING**

**80 Carter Drive • P.O. Box 1470 • Gullford, CT 06437**

**Phone: (203) 453-5200 • Fax: (203) 458-3581**

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6. Compress the strut unit and pull it down to remove it. Retain the compression bumper for reuse. Discard old strut unit.

NOTE: Unit is shipped with the rod locked in the down position. The rod must be extended before installation. To extend, rotate upper end of rod counter-clockwise.

7. Replace compression bumper on to the strut. Insert the Competition Engineering Drag Strut into the upper mounting hole.
8. Install the supplied nut and hand tighten.
9. Position the lower end of the strut into place on the spindle.
10. Install the two lower nuts and bolts. Tighten to 150-180 ft-lbs. Replace brake caliper.
11. Replace front wheel and torque lug nuts to manufacturer's specs.
12. Lower vehicle to the ground. With the vehicle's weight on the suspension, tighten the upper rod nut to 60-75 ft-lbs.
13. We highly recommend that you have the wheel alignment checked before racing the vehicle.

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