Job Procedure

Hook-Up Instructions -- Truck to Trailer

Material Required: Truck
Trailer
Tape Measure
Hitch Bar and Pull Pin
Spring Bars

Steps:

1. Insert hitch bar into receiver on truck, aligning holes for pull pin.

2. Insert pull pin through holes and safety pin to secure pull pin.

3. Jack up trailer to clear height of hitch ball and have someone guide driver to back-up the truck, so the hitch ball is directly underneath trailer coupler.

4. Lower trailer onto hitch ball and turn trailer leveler up to full position.

5. Hold the spring bar with the trunnion away from you with the ribbed side up.

6. Set the bottom knob of the trunnion in the lower socket of the ball mount and slide the top of the knob into the top slot of the ball mount. The spring bars will fit on either side.

7. Check to see if there is room for the bar and chain movement when turning a corner.

8. Place the link of the chain over the chain lifter on the trailer frame bracket. Lift the chain lifter handle up having passed over center and slide safety pin in small hole to lock in place.

9. To determine which chain link to use, drive the truck and trailer to a fixed and level area so that the truck and trailer are lined up.

10. Unhook the trailer from the truck, but do not move the truck or trailer.

11. With the trailer off the truck, measure from a fixed point from the ground to the rear and front bumpers of the truck and record dimensions.

12. Hook the trailer back onto the truck and use a chain link that appears to retain the truck in a level position.

13. Measure again to the same fixed points. The front and the rear of the truck should settle the same amount within ½". Leaving the rear, settle this difference rather than the front for increased traction which equalizes the trailer tongue weight to the front and rear wheels.

14. If this does not level the truck, repeat step #8 using the next link closer to the bar and repeat until level. If there is less than five links between hook and U-bolt, adjust ball mount angle on hitch bar and repeat procedure.

15. Keep the hitch ball lubricated and spring bar trunnions to prevent rapid wear. When hooking-up place one drop of oil on the tap and a drop on the forward side of the upper trunnion. Also place a drop on the rear side of the lower part of the trunnion before inserting trunnion into ball mount. Use a heavy oil.

16. When everything is complete plug-in light cable into truck plug and be sure to hook-up breakaway cable to hitch bar.

17. Before leaving, check all signal and brake lights to make sure all is in working order.

NOTE: If you have never used this procedure before, have your supervisor instruct you how to hook-up the trailer.