

SAFETY PROCEDURES CHECKLIST

HOOKING UP DOUBLE TRAILERS:

REMINDER: *Always wear gloves and safety jacket/vest whenever you are working outside the truck.*

1) First you must get a dolly and pre-trip inspect it for safety and compliance.

- a. Check all air lines and glad hands for cuts or damage.
- b. Check tires for tread, air and objects that may cause a leak.
- c. Check 5th wheel for damage, broken parts and correct greasing.
- d. Check that all lights are present and secure.
- e. Carefully lift dolly and place pintle hook ring into tractor pintle hook (NEVER hold dolly by the pintle hook ring).
- f. Close pintle hook and attach **BOTH** safety chains to the **tractor** (Make sure to **NEVER** pick up dolly with your hand on or near the pintle hook ring).
- g. Make sure all lines are safely in basket so they won't drag on the ground.

2) Drive to the lightest of your two trailers. This will be your back trailer.

- a. Place your dolly directly in front of the trailer.
- b. Make sure center of 5th wheel opening is centered with black stripe on trailer.
- c. Place dolly as close to the trailer as possible without touching or going under it.
- d. Carefully take safety chains off tractor, open tractor pintle hook.
- e. Carefully lift dolly off tractor pintle hook and place on the ground.
- f. Immediately apply the dolly brake by pulling the brake knob.

3) Drive the tractor to the heaviest trailer. This will be your front trailer.

- a. Slowly back up to front of trailer.
- b. Stop before touching or going under trailer.
- c. Get out and look to see that trailer is at the height to get picked up by the 5th wheel when the tractor backs under the trailer. If not adjust trailer height.
- d. Back tractor slowly under the trailer till 5th wheel engages.
- e. Do a pull test by trying to pull forward in 2 or 3 lunges.
- f. Get out of tractor and visually check that there is no gap between trailer and top of 5th wheel.
- g. Connect air and electric lines.
- h. Walk around trailer to pre-trip inspect.
- i. Check for any damage that will cause a safety issue or package damage.
- j. Check tires and rims for damage or objects in tires.
- k. Check that all lights are working.
- l. Check for registration (black rubber/plastic box).

4) Slowly pull out and drive to your back trailer and dolly.

- a. Slowly back your front trailer to the center of the dolly.
- b. Try to keep the front trailer aligned as straight as possible to the back trailer.
- c. Back up slowly until you tap the dolly.
- d. Then drive forward about 1 foot.

5) Apply both tractor and trailer brakes. Get out and walk to the dolly.

- a. Check to see that dolly is centered and close to the pintle hook of front trailer.
- b. Check for any grade that may want to make dolly roll when brake will be disengaged.
- c. Prepare for the dolly to start moving. Push in dolly brake handle.
- d. Carefully pick up dolly and put into pintle hook of front trailer.
- e. Close pintle hook.
- f. Attach both safety chains.
- g. Attach air/electric hoses to front trailer.
- h. Attach other air hoses to dolly plug.
- i. Verify that back trailer is at correct height for dolly to pick it up when you back under it.

6) Walk back to tractor

- a. Release trailer brake and wait for 30 seconds. This will give time for the dolly airbags to inflate.
- b. Release tractor brake. Honk horn twice.
- c. Slowly back under trailer until 5th wheel engages.
- d. Tug forward 2 or 3 times to ensure 5th wheel is engaged.
- e. Apply both tractor and trailer brakes.

7) Walk back to dolly.

- a. Visually check that dolly 5th wheel is engaged, and safety bar is locked.
- b. Make sure there is no gap between trailer and top of dolly 5th wheel.
- c. Connect air and electric lines to back trailer.
- d. Double check that pintle hook from front trailer is closed and safety chains are hooked.
- e. Roll up landing gear.
- f. Check trailer for damage
- g. Check tires and rims for damage or debris that will make trailer unsafe to drive.
- h. Check that all lights are working.
- i. Check for registration

8) Walk back to Tractor.

- a. Release trailer brakes. Wait for 30 seconds to let all air bags fill up in both trailers.
- b. Release tractor brakes and drive to staging area.

9) Once at staging area you must do at least one more full inspection on tractor and trailers.

- a. Apply tractor and trailer brakes.
- b. Walk fully around tractor and trailers visually inspecting everything.
- c. Double check all air and electric lines are attached and secure. Not rubbing on anything.
- d. No gap between trailers and 5th wheels. 5th wheel is fully engaged, and safety bar locked.
- e. Pintle hook closed and safety chains attached.
- f. All lights are working.
- g. All tires are inflated and have good tread.
- h. Trailer registrations are present.