

February 14, 2007

To all Reliance Dealers/Distributors:

Reliance Trailers has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in some of our transfer trailer chassis'. The drawbar hinge assemblies at the front of the turntable may have been either incorrectly assembled or improperly tightened during assembly. One or both of these conditions may exist with the below referenced Reliance transfer trailer chassis'.

Transfer chassis' that were exposed to this potential problem were manufactured between February 1, 2005 and January 21, 2007, and have VIN numbers (last six digits) between 054022 and 084112.

Specifically, if a standard 3/4"x3" USS bolt was installed in one or both of the drawbar hinge assemblies, the shoulder on the bolt will not allow the flange to be properly drawn up against the bushing. (The shoulder on the bolt will bottom out internally on the tapered hinge pin before the bushing inside the hinge assembly is compressed.) This situation may allow the bolt to back out of the tapered hinge, allowing the pin to work out of the hinge assembly, potentially compromising the connection between the trailer drawbar and the trailer.

We are therefore recommending to our customers an **immediate** inspection of their trailers and replacement and or tightening of the bolt in the drawbar hinge assemblies. Enclosed is a drawing of the assemblies and instructions for tightening and or replacing the affected bolts. Under normal conditions, we would anticipate this inspection and repair to take less than one half hour.

As stated in the letter to our customer, we want to make this procedure as simple as possible. For that purpose we are encouraging all parties involved, to do their utmost to get the job done as quickly and as painlessly as possible. Additionally, it is essential that we be notified of the inspection results and corrective action taken so that we may follow up with NHTSA requirements.

As per our customer letter, we are shipping (2) 3/4"x3" USS Full Thread Grade 8 bolts with 3/4" lockwashers. Per your request, we will ship a quantity of bolts for you to have on hand in case a customer unexpectedly arrives at your facility for this recall.

For more information, please contact any of the following Reliance service centers for assistance.

Brian Rheingans: Warranty Manager
(888) 475-6800 Ext: 340
Reliance Trailer Co. LLC
3025 S. Geiger Blvd.
Spokane, WA 99224

Harry Baird
(425) 483-9863 or (425) 870-1744 (cell)
OSW Equipment & Repair, Inc
21831 76th Drive SE
Woodinville, WA 98072

Dave Gradek: Customer Service Manager
(800) 339-7911 or (707) 795-0081
Redwood Reliance Sales Co.
7911 Redwood Drive
Cotati, CA 94931

Tom Mallon
(253) 826-0795 or (206) 383-0788 (cell)
South End Equipment & Repair
931 Valentine Ave
Pacific, WA 98047

Dennis Bermers: General Manager
(800) 367-5152 or (707) 443-7073
Reliance Peterbilt
2660 Jacobs Ave
Eureka, CA 95501

Eric Stublaski: General Manager
(602) 352-0039
Southwest Reliance Trailer Sales, LLC
842 S. 59th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85043

REQUIRED Information

Date Performed: _____

VIN; (Last 6 Digits of Serial #:) _____

Action Taken (Please check all that apply)

☐ Removed & inspected bolts

☐ Tightened existing full thread bolts

☐ Replaced bolts & lockwashers with supplied full thread bolts & lockwashers

☐ Replaced bolts with 3/4" x 3" USS Grade 8 Full Thread bolts (Customer Supplied)

☐ Tightened bolts to specifications using torque wrench

REQUESTED Information

Owner _____

Phone (____) _____

Company _____

Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____

Mailing Address _____

Street or PO Box

State

ZIP

Shipping Address _____

Street

State

ZIP

Please return this response sheet in the prepaid, addressed envelope.

Reliance Trailer Co. LLC

3025 S. Geiger, Blvd.

Spokane, WA. 99224

Att: Warranty Manager

(See Page 2 of the Drawings Tab)

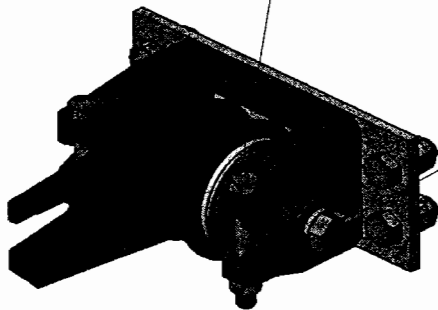
TIGHTENING PROCEDURES FOR RELIANCE DRAWBAR HINGE ASSEMBLIES

Insure that the **correct bolts*** with lockwasher are started in each tapered hinge pin of the drawbar hinge assembly. Loosen the 1/2" X 4" vertical bolt assembly adjacent to each 3/4" bolt. Alternately tighten each 3/4" bolt to **120 ft-lbs of torque**, assuring that drawbar housings at end of drawbar remain centered in hinge castings at front of trailer.

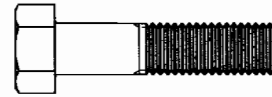
Test springs for desired rotational stiffness. If a stiffer hinge is desired, tighten 3/4" bolts in 10 to 20ft-lb increments. **DO NOT EXCEED 160 ft-lbs of torque.** Once tightened to the desired stiffness, there should be equal protrusions of bushing on both sides of the drawbar housings. Retighten the 1/2" X 4" bolts that were previously loosened.

* 3/4" x 3", USS, Grade 8, full thread bolt

LOOSEN THIS BOLT AS PER
TIGHTENING PROCEDURE



INCORRECT



SHOULDER STYLE BOLT

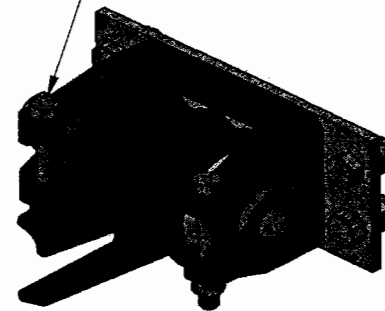
CORRECT



FULL THREAD STYLE

INSPECT THIS BOLT ON
BOTH ASSEMBLIES

LOOSEN THIS BOLT AS PER
TIGHTENING PROCEDURE

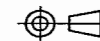


INSPECT DRAWBAR HINGE ASSEMBLY TO ENSURE RETAINER BOLTS ARE 3/4" X 3" GRADE 8 **FULL THREAD** BOLTS. IF BOLTS HAVE SHOULDER AS SHOWN IN DETAIL, REPLACE WITH FULL THREAD STYLE, AND REPLACE 3/4" LOCK WASHER. SEE PAGE TWO OF THIS DRAWING FOR BOLT TIGHTENING PROCEDURE

DRAWING IS NOT TO SCALE - DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES UNLESS NOTED. ALL CUT AREAS MUST BE SMOOTH AND FREE OF NICKS AND GOUGES. FINISHED PIECES MUST BE STRAIGHT, TRUE AND WITHOUT TWIST THRU-OUT ENTIRE LENGTH. FORMING CRACKS NOT ACCEPTABLE.

THIS DRAWING IS FURNISHED AS A COURTESY AND REMAINS THE PROPERTY OF RELIANCE TRAILER MANUFACTURING. NO INFORMATION GIVEN HEREIN MAY BE USED OR COPIED WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF RELIANCE TRAILER MFG.

THIRD ANGLE



UNLESS NOTED TOLERANCES ARE:

FRACTIONS: $\pm 1/16"$, ANGLES: $\pm 1^\circ$
.XXX - $\pm .010$, .XX - $\pm .030$, .X - $\pm .050$

DRAWN:

MARK M.

RAW MAT:

CUT SIZE:

FT/LF:

DATE:

1/16/07

RAW MAT CODE:

DWG REF #S:

(A)

CHECKED:

ROUTER:

STATION STORE:

WT. REF:

Reliance
HEAVY DUTY TRAILERS

RELIANCE TRAILER CO., LLC
3025 S. GEIGER BLVD SPOKANE, WA 99224

DESCRIPTION:

DRAWBAR HINGE BOLTS

DWG NO:

SHEET: 1 OF 2

DRAWBAR HINGE BOLTS

TIGHTENING PROCEDURE FOR RELIANCE DRAWBAR HINGE ASSEMBLIES

1. Insure that correct bolts with lockwasher are started into each tapered hinge pin.
2. Loosen the 1/2" x 4" vertical bolt assembly adjacent to each 3/4" bolt.
3. Alternately tighten each 3/4" bolt to 120 ft. lbs. of torque, assuring that the drawbar housings at end of drawbar remain centered in hinge castings at front of trailer.
4. Test springs for desired rotational stiffness. If a stiffer hinge is desired, tighten 3/4" bolts in 10 to 20 ft. lbs. increments.
DO NOT EXCEED 160 FT. LBS. OF TORQUE. Once tightened to desired stiffness, there should be equal proportions of bushings on both sides of the drawbar housings.
5. Retighten the 1/2" x 4" vertical bolts, previously loosened.

DRAWING IS NOT TO SCALE - DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES UNLESS NOTED. ALL CUT AREAS MUST BE SMOOTH AND FREE OF NICKS AND GOUGES. FINISHED PIECES MUST BE STRAIGHT, TRUE AND WITHOUT TWIST THRU-OUT ENTIRE LENGTH. FORMING CRACKS NOT ACCEPTABLE.				THIS DRAWING IS FURNISHED AS A COURTESY AND REMAINS THE PROPERTY OF RELIANCE TRAILER MANUFACTURING. NO INFORMATION GIVEN HEREIN MAY BE USED OR COPIED WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF RELIANCE TRAILER MFG.		THIRD ANGLE 	UNLESS NOTED TOLERANCES ARE: FRACTIONS: $\pm 1/16"$, ANGLES: $\pm 1^\circ$.XXX - $\pm .010$, .XX - $\pm .030$, .X - $\pm .050$
DRAWN:	RAW MAT:	CUT SIZE:	FT/LF:	 RELIANCE TRAILER MANUFACTURING 3025 S. GEIGER BLVD. SPOKANE, WA 99224			
DATE:	RAW MAT CODE:	DWG REF #'S:	(A)				
CHECKED:	ROUTER:	STATION STORE:	WT. REF:				
				DESCRIPTION:			
				DWG NO:		SHEET: 2 OF 2	
				DRAWBAR HINGE BOLTS			