

TRAILER PARKING AND EMERGENCY BRAKES AND AIR LINE CONNECTIONS

APPLICATION

Parking and Emergency Brakes

This inspection applies to all trailers.

Air Line Connections

This inspection applies to all trailers of whatever age and to drawing vehicles first used from 1 April 1989.

PROCEDURE AND STANDARDS

Parking Brake

Check that the brake Operates on at least two road wheels, and can be securely set.

Check the mechanism for security, cracks, excessive wear and/or corrosion.

With the brake fully applied, check that the mechanism is not at the end of its working travel and there is no fouling of adjacent parts.

Emergency Brake and Air Line Connections

Ensure that the air reservoirs on the drawing vehicle are fully charged.

With the vehicle Parking brake on and the trailer parking brake off, ask the driver to disconnect the service (yellow) and emergency (red) brake lines.

Note: For semi-trailers, the red and yellow lines must only be disconnected from the trailer. For drawbar trailers, the red and yellow lines must only be disconnected from the vehicle. If either the red or yellow line can be disconnected from both ends, it should be recorded as a minor defect.

Check that the trailer brakes are automatically applied when the emergency line is disconnected.

Check, on vehicles and trailers fitted with "C" type couplings, that the coupling in the service (yellow) line - either fitted to the trailer or in the line itself - is fitted with an operating adapter which can open the self sealing coupling in the connector from the drawing vehicle.

Check that the operating adapter lifts the indicator on the test coupling by the correct amount. The wasted portion of the indicator (coloured green) must be exposed, but no more than this.

Check that any brake line on the drawing vehicle is not fitted with a manual shut-off tap.

Trailer Secondary Brake (where fitted)

Pressurise the trailer secondary brake system and check for operation and air leaks

The following vehicle/trailer types require an adapter to be fitted

Two line drawing vehicle coupled to three line trailer.

Three line drawing vehicle with no separate secondary control coupled to a three line trailer.

Supply a suitable adapter and request the driver to connect the tractor/drawing vehicle service line to the trailer secondary line.

Instruct the driver to apply the service brake, and listen for brake application and air leaks.

Note:

If spring brake actuators are fitted to the vehicle/trailer ensure parking brake is in the off position.

Instruct the driver to remove the adapter and reconnect the brake lines. Check the reconnection by instructing the driver to apply the footbrake.

Some park brake controls also deplete the air suspension systems when the red air line is removed this is acceptable provided it does not drain the air brake reservoir. If it does refer to Reason for Failure under section titled 'Brakes Systems and Components'.

REASONS FOR FAILURE

Deficiency Category

1. Trailer parking brake:

- | | | |
|----|--|-----------|
| a. | Does not operate on at least two wheels. | DANGEROUS |
| b. | Cannot be securely set. | MAJOR |
| c. | Mechanism worn. | MINOR |
| d. | Mechanism insecure, cracked, excessively worn and or badly corroded. | MAJOR |
| e. | When fully applied the mechanism is at the end of its working travel or it is fouling adjacent parts of the vehicle. | MAJOR |
| 2. | Trailer emergency brake: | |
| a. | Not applied automatically when the emergency (red) brake line is disconnected. | DANGEROUS |
| 3. | Operating adapter, to open self sealing coupling: | |
| a. | Not fitted in service (yellow) line. | MAJOR |
| b. | Produces incorrect amount of lift. | MAJOR |
| 4. | An airline fitted with a manual shut off tap. | MAJOR |
| 5. | Trailer Secondary brake system defective. | MAJOR |
| 6. | Tap or sealing valve: | |
| a. | Insecure, inadequately mounted or defective. | MINOR |
| b. | Insecure, inadequately mounted or defective to such an extent the functionality is affected. | MAJOR |
| 7. | A red or yellow airline that can be disconnected from both ends | MINOR |