

# Drawbar Hinge Kit Maintenance

Applicable to RTBK & UTBK using the WT1202D-69315 Pin and T5524 Bushes

- **Drivers should visually inspect the drawbar hinge kit on a daily basis to ensure it is sound and secure.**

## Daily visual inspection

Check three things as part of the driver's daily walk around:

1. Make sure that all components are in place and that there is rubber present between the hinge components (see figure 1).

Fig 1



There should be a rubber bead formed in each of these areas, separating the metal components. It should be complete around the circumference and not split.

2. Make sure the pin is in place and secure. Look for tell tales of an insecure pin assembly around the nut and washer (see figure 2).

Fig 2



These black marks should not be present on a secure connection. If they are, then replace the pin kit and bushes.

3. Make sure the hinge castings and welding show no signs of cracks.

If any defects are found, the assembly should be repaired immediately, and any faulty components replaced.

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## Service Notes

### If checking nut for security

- An impact gun must not be used.
- A checking torque of no more than 300Nm should be applied.
- If a nut has come loose, it will need further investigation before going on the road.

### At vehicle service inspections

As well a daily visual inspection, the hinge connection should be checked on every vehicle service inspection\*. This should occur at least every 3 months or 30,000kms, whichever is first.

In addition to visual checks, the connection should be checked for any non-elastic movement. This can be achieved in a number of ways, the most common being the use of a small pry bar placed between the RTB12 and RTB14 or by rocking the vehicle in a safe manner with the draw bar eye fixed.

If the bushes are worn there is no benefit to be gained from further tightening the bolt. This may cause further issues. Excess tightening of the pin can lead to catastrophic failure of the assembly.

If any wear is present, the bushes and pins need to be replaced. The certification allows for a maximum wear of 5% of the original dimensions of the castings before they must be replaced. This a maximum wear limit not an operational wear limit, if new bushes do not secure the connection, then the castings may need replacing.

If any components are replaced, please follow the installation guidelines.

*\* The correct operation of this connection relies on the elasticity of the joint, there is a resistance to the metal castings movement and the two components are kept separated. The torque figure given in the installation manual must not be used as a means of ensuring the connection is fit for service.*