

Operating Instructions

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Freighter Extendable Semi Trailers

Operating Instructions

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Introduction:

These trailers are designed to permit the cartage of longer loads than can be accommodated on standard semi trailers. Adjustment of the trailer length is achieved by applying the trailer brakes, releasing main rail locking pins and, using the prime mover, extending or closing the sliding main rails to the required position and re-engaging the locking pins. Load ratings and stages of extension are specific to each trailer configuration and are shown on the Frame Load Rating plate attached to trailer coaming on the road side (photo 5 below).



Photo 1. General view showing sliding main rails arrangement

Safety notes:

1. Ensure that the trailer is parked on suitable “hardstand” ground prior to extending or closing the trailer.
2. Ensure that personnel are clear of trailer whilst it is being extended or closed, particularly behind the trailer and in the vicinity of extending section.
3. Visually inspect that locking pins are fully engaged before traveling the trailer.
4. Extending or closing the trailer whilst loaded must be avoided.

Operation:

To extend the trailer from the closed position:

1. Retract the locking pins by operating the air valve located on the roadside of the trailer under the coaming near the landing legs (refer photo 2).
2. Apply the trailer brakes and move the prime mover forward in low gear until the lock pins are near the required locking holes.
3. Engage the pins by pulling the hand valve and continue to move the prime mover slowly towards the locating holes where the spring-loaded pins will automatically engage the holes.
4. Ensure that the pins are fully engaged. Refer photo 3 – the end of the pins protrude completely through the locating hole.



Photo 2
Air valve – Push to disengage pins, Pull to engage pins



Photo 3
Locking pin engaged – protrudes through locating hole

To alter the trailer to other positions:

Repeat the above procedure to either extend or close the trailer, driving the prime mover slowly in forward or reverse as applicable.

Load supporting bolsters:

To assist in providing support for long flexible loads when the trailer is extended, multi-position bolsters are supplied and should be fitted as shown below.



Photo 4
Bolster locating
handle



Photo 5. Typical
Frame Load
Rating Plate
located on
roadside coaming.

Colin Baldock
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