PHILLIPS

Qwik Tech Tips

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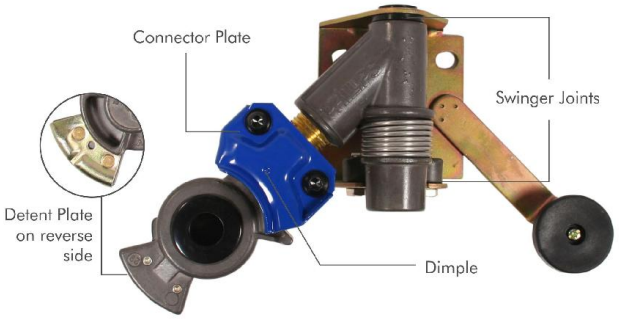
SWINGER GLADHAND GENERAL CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Swinger gladhands were designed to help eliminate damage due to pull-away or tight/jack-knife turns, as well as reducing impact where straight or angled gladhands are exposed to damage.

To keep swinger gladhands in good working order, preventative maintenance should be performed every 3-6 months, or at each scheduled preventative maintenance interval.



General Care of Gladhands:

1. Gladhand Seals – Gladhand seals should be checked for wear and cracks that can cause leaks. Replace where any type of damage is present. If gladhand seals have dust flaps, replace when any flaps are torn or missing. If using filter screens, replace when damaged, torn or filled with debris.
2. Signs of Corrosion – Gladhands that show substantial signs of corrosion on the body, connector and/or detent plate should be replaced. It is suggested to use powder coated or anodized gladhands in highly corrosive environments.
3. Connector Plate – Make sure the small dimple on the connector plate is not worn down. If the dimple is worn down, replace the gladhand. If not replaced, coupled gladhands will leak air because they will begin to lose the ability to seal properly.
4. Detent Plate and Rivets – Look for heavy wear to the detent plate as well as loose or corroded rivets. If the detent plate becomes loose it can eventually break off, making coupling impossible. Replace the gladhand where signs of heavy wear or corrosion are present.

Care of Swinger Arm and Mounting Plate/Hardware:

1. Swinger Arm/Spring – Joints should be blown clean during preventative maintenance inspections. A shot of penetrating spray can be used to keep the swinger operating properly.
2. Mounting Plate/Bracket and Hardware – Check for loose bolts and tighten where necessary to the proper torque. Check for signs of corrosion on the mounting plate and hardware. Replace if significant signs of deterioration are present that can jeopardize secure attachment of the swinger gladhand to the trailer.

Note: When replacing hardware, most mounting holes are 5/16", in which case Phillips recommends using 5/16" bolts/studs and 5/16" flat washers with Keps, Nyloc or other locking type nuts. Torque to the manufacturer's specifications [U.S. Recommended Bolt Torque: Gr. 2 (8lb. -ft) Gr. 5(13 1lb. -ft) for course thread bolts/studs.]

TIPS

Have technical questions? Get the latest tips from a skilled Phillips engineer!
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- To keep swinger gladhands in good working order, preventative maintenance should be performed every 3-6 months, or at each scheduled preventative maintenance interval.
- As a recommended practice, gladhands should be replaced when air lines are replaced. Gladhand seals should be changed out once a year. These recommended replacement practices are suggested when signs of heavy wear, corrosion, cracking, damage, etc. are NOT visible, in which case they should be replaced much sooner.

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POLAR-AIR®

- Perfect for extreme weather conditions - Hot & Cold!
- Remains flexible at -85°F to 140°F (-65°C to 60°C)
- Excellent recoil memory, chemical & abrasion resistance
- POWER GRIP™ gladhand extension provides superior coupling/uncoupling leverage
- Single piece trailer side and three-piece swivel tractor side fittings

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