

Keeping Corrosion Out at the Liftgate Connection

Corrosion build up is no stranger to a coupled liftgate connection, which can slow down, or completely block, the charge to the liftgate batteries causing downtime and delayed deliveries.

To keep your liftgate cycling for on-time deliveries, consider the following:

Proper Maintenance

A leading factor that contributes to corrosion at the connection includes a lack of proper maintenance with regard to moisture and contaminant intrusion. It may be impossible to stop the intrusion of water and contaminants completely on a standard connection, but proper maintenance can slow down the corrosion process.

- Liftgate socket and plug connections should be inspected and cleaned at every preventive maintenance interval.
- To clean the socket and plug union, it is recommended to use water with a mini wire brush with a plastic or wood body (for the sockets) and a tube brush (for the plugs). Only recouple once completely dry.
- It is equally important to check the cable for any damage and replace where necessary.

Note: Before cleaning, if a tractor socket has a manual circuit breaker or master disconnect, turn it off. If not, disconnect the positive cable from the battery before cleaning.

Installation and Coupling

- Sockets should always be mounted in a vertical position. Sockets that are angled with their openings pointed up will not drain properly and will catch and trap moisture and contaminants. This creates a breeding ground for corrosion inside the socket which can travel into the liftgate charging system. Never mount sockets at a reverse angle.
- When inserting the plug into the socket, make sure it is inserted all the way in so that the latch on the plug catches with the latch on the inside of the socket lid to keep the union tight and securely connected.
- When disconnected, keep the liftgate electrical assembly stored in a safe place such as a stowage system on the back of the tractor.
- Use dielectric grease on the back of the socket to help keep corrosion out
- Installing weather-proof liftgate products, such as the WEATHER-TITE™ M2 from Phillips, are designed to fight against corrosion. With features such as non-corrosive housing and a seal to block moisture and contaminant entry inside the socket at the coupled union, it offers corrosion protection that its standard zinc counterpart cannot.



Dual Pole Socket Corrosion

Dual Pole Plug Corrosion



WEATHER-TITE™ M2 weather-proof dual pole plug connection

TIPS

Have technical questions? Get the latest tips from a skilled Phillips engineer! Call: 888-959-0995 OR e-mail: techtips@phillipsind.com

- Proper routine maintenance can slow down the corrosion process.
- Proper installation, coupling, and stowage all play a part in keeping corrosion out of the liftgate electrical system.
- Weather-proofing products for liftgate applications are available to offer additional solutions for corrosion protection.

PRODUCT INFORMATION related to this article is available [here](#).

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