

Emerging Proficient



Commercial Driver Program

Coupling and Uncoupling Trailers

Advanced Competencies Curriculum

EPCD Collaboration of Construction Businesses

Thanks to the advisory committee for your review and approval and to Fortified Development for the development of this curriculum.

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Let's Get Started



Overview

Coupling and uncoupling trailers is a daily task for most professional commercial drivers. To ensure the safety of the driver, as well as other drivers on the road, it needs to be done safely and efficiently. We will explore the proper way to couple and uncouple trailers as well as how to inspect to make sure the connection is functioning properly.

Coupling and Uncoupling Training will cover:

- Properly couple and uncouple a trailer
 - Safely working with landing gear and fifth wheel
 - Explain and practice effectively inspecting the coupling system
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- **Training Hour(s): Classroom 2 hrs. /4.5 hrs. OJL**

Properly Couple and Uncouple a Trailer

Steps for Coupling Tractor Semi-Trailers

1. Inspect fifth wheel
2. Inspect area and chock wheels
3. Position tractor
4. Back slowly
5. Secure tractor
6. Check trailer height
7. Connect air lines to trailer
8. Supply air to trailer
9. Lock trailer brakes
10. Back under trailer
11. Check connection for security
12. Secure vehicle
13. Inspect coupling
14. Connect the electrical cord and check air lines
15. Raise front trailer supports (landing gear)
16. Remove trailer wheel chocks

Steps for Uncoupling Tractor Semi-Trailers

1. Position rig
2. Ease pressure on locking jaws
3. Chock trailer wheels
4. Lower the landing gear
5. Disconnect air lines and electrical cable
6. Unlock fifth wheel
7. Pull tractor partially clear of trailer
8. Secure tractor
9. Inspect trailer supports
10. Pull tractor clear of trailer



How to Couple and Uncouple a Tractor Trailer



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uo5SW0JG0-Y&t=52s>

Let's hit the road!