



FIFTH WHEELS

SERVICE BULLETIN



Inspection and Replacement of Rubber Upshock Cushions

June 1, 1993

Inspection and replacement of rubber upshock cushions should be part of the routine preventive maintenance program. The bracket pivot joint on Holland fifth wheels is designed to be steel on steel for vertical down loading and rubber cushioned on uploading. Due to wear in the top plate and bracket cap interface and compression of the upshock cushion, it is normal to see some free vertical movement at this joint. This vertical movement does not constitute a safety concern because the drawbar loads are transferred through the steel on steel interface, not transferred through the pivot bracket pins. See **FIGURE 1**.

The rubber upshock cushions should be replaced when the free vertical movement (without rubber compression) exceeds $.38''$. If the vertical movement exceeds $.5''$, the vehicle should be taken out of service until repairs can be completed.

INSPECTION PROCEDURE:

To determine if upshock cushion replacement is required, pry up on each fifth wheel top plate pivot ear using a small bar as shown in **FIGURE 2**. Replace the cushion if more than $.38''$ vertical movement is noted.

FIGURE 1

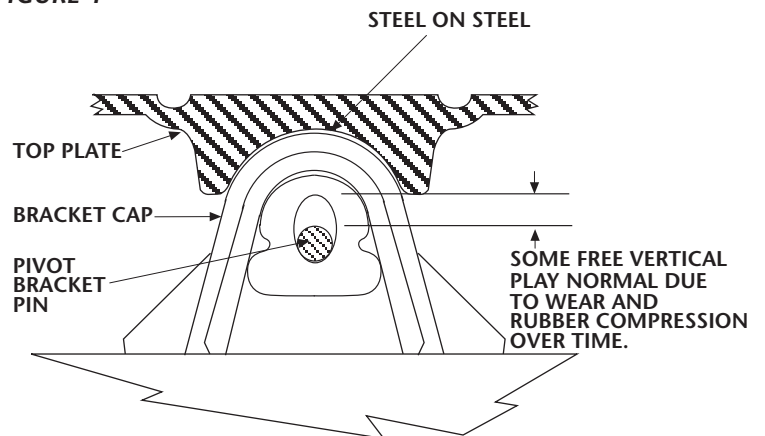
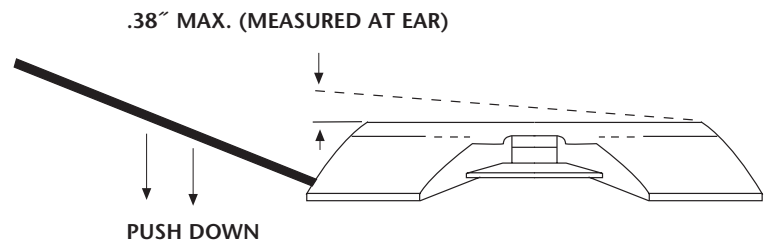


FIGURE 2



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