



THE FIRST NAME IN QUALITY COUPLINGS

Installation, Inspection, Operation & Maintenance Guide



Model 536BK Front End Assembly

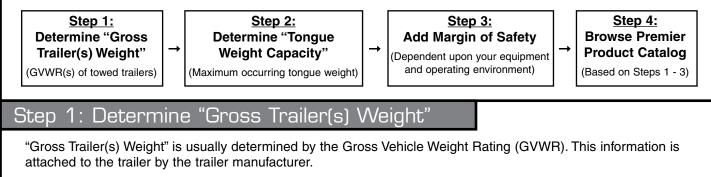
IMPORTANT

Read these instructions completely before installing, using or attempting to repair this product. If you have any questions, call Premier at (800) 255-5387 or (503) 234-9202.

Selecting The Right Equipment

Whatever your application, selecting the proper equipment for the job is very important. Proper selection along with regular inspection and maintenance will help keep operating costs minimal while providing long life to each component. Below are general guidelines for selecting Premier Couplings and Drawbar Eyes. If you feel that your application is unique, please give Premier a call so that we may help you through the selection process.

Follow these four steps to ensure proper selection of Premier Couplings and Drawbar Eyes.





For "Double Trailer" configurations, only the rear trailer is considered when selecting your Premier Coupling or Drawbar Eye. In this example, a Coupling and Drawbar Eye with a "Gross Trailer Weight" rating of 40,000 lbs. (18,143 kg) would be the minimum rating acceptable for normal, over-theroad applications (see Tongue Weight section below).

Example only, each application may vary and should be considered unique.



For "Triple Trailers", only the two most rearward trailers are considered in selecting your Premier Coupling or Drawbar Eye. In this example, a Coupling and Drawbar Eye with a "Gross Trailer Weight" rating of 80,000 lbs. (36,287 kg) would be the minimum acceptable for normal, over-the-road applications (see Tongue Weight section below).

Step 2: Determine "Tongue Weight Capacity"

"Tongue Weight Capacity" is the maximum expected weight at the drawbar eye. If a hinged drawbar is used, the maximum weight will be approximately 1/2 the overall drawbar weight. If a non-hinged drawbar is used and the actual tongue weight is not known, you can approximate the weight by multiplying the GVWR of the towed trailer by 15%. However, each application is unique and the best practice is to weigh the tongue when the trailer is loaded to its GVWR.

Step 3: Considering Operating Conditions and Environments

Environments such as rough uneven roads or off-road use can dramatically increase shock loads to both drawbar eyes and couplings. In general, increasing the "Gross Trailer Weight" (Step 1:) and "Tongue Weight Capacity" (Step 2:) by a minimum of 25% will be sufficient for many applications. Even if an application is used off-road occasionally, the minimum increase necessary for Gross Trailer and Tongue Weight is 25%. Certain types of equipment and/or operating practices can also dramatically increase loads through equipment binding and/or improper loading practices. Of special concern is high tongue weight. However, each application is unique and every environment different, therefore your application may require more than 25%.

Once both "Gross Trailers(s) Weight" (Step 1:) and "Tongue Weight Capacity" (Step 2:) have been determined, evaluate your operating conditions and apply an appropriate margin of safety.

Step 4: Browse Premier Product Catalog

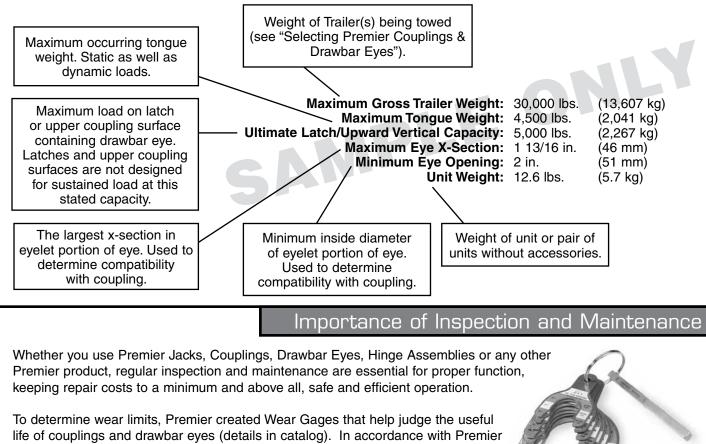
Browse the Premier Product Catalog and refer to the "Specifications" section of each product. Be sure to review the "Understanding Premier Load Specifications" section and "Coupling to Drawbar Eye Cross-Reference" sheet on the next couple pages.



Selecting The Right Equipment

Understanding Premier Load Specifications

Each Premier product undergoes extensive design and testing prior to being introduced. We use the latest in Computer Aided Design and Analysis Software as well as physical destructive tests. Premier's published load specifications are the maximum load a given product or part will withstand without failure. Premier's testing procedures closely follow the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) guidelines of Recommended Practice for testing Couplings and Drawbar Eyes (SAE J847 & J849).



life of couplings and drawbar eyes (details in catalog). In accordance with Premier and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, these were designed to identify wear at the critical percentages of 18% and 20%, by measuring the crosssection of coupling hooks (horn) and drawbar eye loops. 18% wear indicates that

the product should be replaced as soon as possible. At 20% wear, the product is no longer in usable condition and must be taken out of service immediately and replaced. The latch gage bar measures the gap space between the top of the coupling hook and the closed latch. If the 3/8" latch gage bar can pass between this region, then the latch components should be considered worn past safe limits and replaced. Please note that these wear gage specifications are in accordance with Premier Mfg. Co. and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (refer to other manufacturer's specifications for wear limits on their products).

Premier also provides Installation Guides for each of our major products. These help guide you through installation, inspection, routine maintenance and part replacement. Another resource is our website at **www.premier-mfg.com**. Here you will find Installation Guides, Service Guides, distributor locations, online catalogs, product information, trade show schedules and links to trucking resources.



'The Harder You Work It, The Harder It Gets"

"Premalloy" - Premier's Exclusive Alloy

"The harder you work it, the harder it gets" best describes how Premalloy performs. Premalloy actually work hardens at the contact surfaces during normal use, which results in longer service life. Premalloy is highly recommended for off-road and aggregate type applications due to its wear resistant characteristics. Many of Premier's couplings are made from this exclusive material. As you are browsing the catalog, look for the Premalloy icon next to the product photos to determine which models are made of this material.



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Selecting The Right Equipment

Coupling to Drawbar Eye Cross Reference Chart

† Saf-Tite Product

* Industrial Application

CAUTION: Verify that both the coupling's and drawbar eye's rated capacities meet your application(s) requirements.

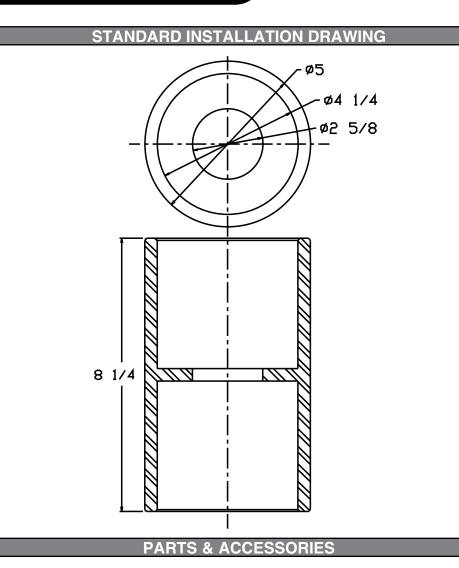


SPECIFICATIONS

SAFETY WARNING

This product is designed for towing under normal conditions within the stated gross trailer weight capacity of the drawbar eye being used. Do not overload or abuse this product. Overloading or abuse may lead to property damage, severe injury, or death.

Bushing I.D.:	2 1/4 in.	(57 mm)
Bushing O.D.:	4 1/4 in.	(108 mm)
Bushing Length:	4 1/2 in.	(114 mm)



Parts Included:

- 536 Housing
- 437AK Poly Bushings
- 349SE-SPL Washer

Bushing Replacements

(Use ONLY Premier's Bushings):

437AK (Poly)

Drawbar Eye is NOT included (Use ONLY Premier's Drawbar Eyes):

- 207K Drawbar Eye
- 307K Drawbar Eye

INSTALLATION

These instructions are ONLY for Premier 207K and 307K Drawbar Eyes, and Premier 437AK Bushings, installed in a Premier 536BK Front End Assembly. Any substitution or use of non-Premier components in the 536BK Front End Assembly VOIDS ALL PRODUCT WARRANTY.

Installation Procedure:

- The 536BK Front End Assembly and its accompanying drawbar eye must be installed to comply with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. Specifically, Section 393.70, Paragraph C: "Towing of Full Trailers." Prior to install or operation, consult with local, State and Federal agencies, as there may be additional applicable laws governing installation and use of this product.
- 2. One of the three attached Welding Procedure Specifications; GMAW, SMAW or FCAW, must be followed. Welding should only be performed by a certified welder skilled in structural welding practices.
- 3. All weld locations must be clean, paint free and void of any moisture, oil, grease, oxides or loose or thick scale.
- 4. The front end structure that the 536 Housing attaches to must be of sufficient strength to withstand the load rating of the drawbar eye it is used with. Figure 1 demonstrates one example of a proper 536 Housing to front end connection. The critical features of this example include a minimum of three points of contact between the front end structure and the entire cylinder length of the 536 Housing as well as fillet welds of adequate size and length.

536BK Assembly after Welding

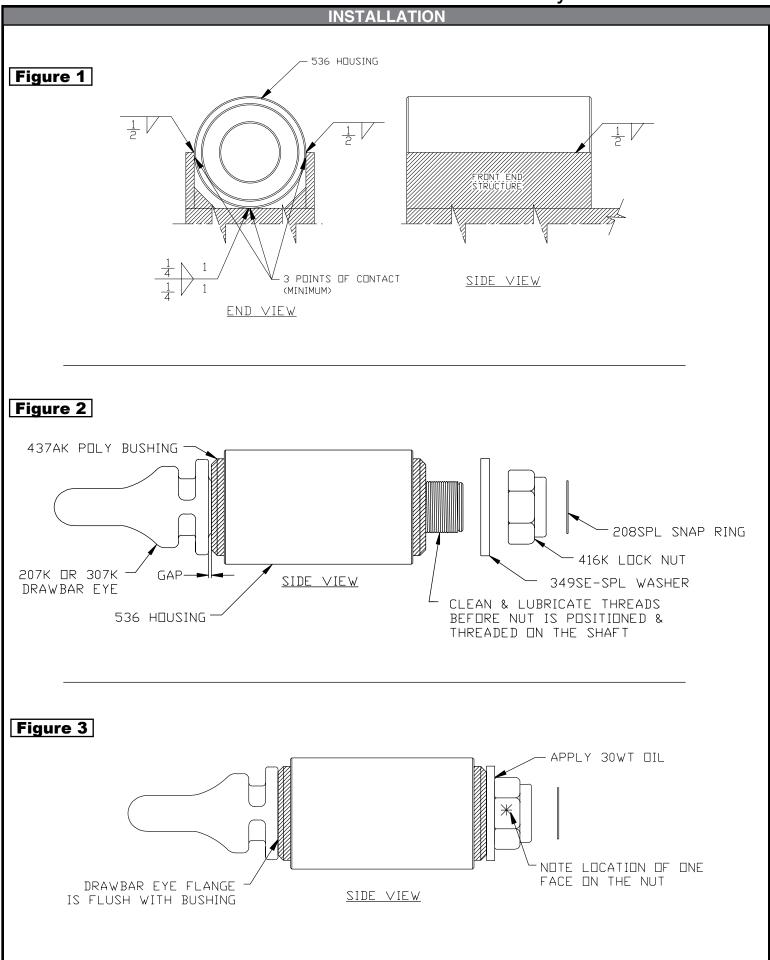
(Premier 207K & 307K Drawbar Eyes only) (Premier 437AK Poly Bushings only)

- 5. Allow the finished structure to cool.
- 6. Slide the 437AK Poly Bushings into each end of the 536 Housing.
- 7. Using extreme caution to avoid damaging or nicking the threads, slide the drawbar eye all the way through each 437AK Poly Bushing.

- 8. Clean and lubricate all visible threads.
- 9. Slide the 349SE-SPL Washer onto the threaded end of the drawbar eye.
- 10. Lubricate the open face of the 349SE-SPL Washer with 30wt. oil where the 416K Locknut will rotate against it (see Figure 3).
- 11. Thread the 416K Locknut onto the drawbar eye just far enough to remove any free play from the 349SE-SPL Washer.
- 12. If an initial gap exists between the flat flanged base of the drawbar eye and the face of the front 437AK Poly Bushing (see Figure 2), then slowly tighten the 416K Locknut until the gap just disappears as shown in Figure 3.
- 13. Note the location of one of the 416K Locknut faces relative to a spot on the 536 Housing (see Figure 3).
- 14. Tighten the 416K Locknut no fewer than five complete revolutions from the position shown in Figure 3.
- 15. Place the 208SPL Snap Ring in the groove at the end of the drawbar eye shaft to complete the assembly as shown in Figure 4. Use caution when installing the snap ring and make certain not to over expand it as this will cause permanent damage to the snap ring.
- 16. "IMPORTANT WARNINGS!" sticker was enclosed. This must be attached to the front end, adjacent to the drawbar eye, visible for the end user to read.
- **<u>Please note</u>**: All applications vary and this is a recommended install starting point for bushing tightness at 70°F ambient air temperature. Varying conditions and applications may require a different initial set up.

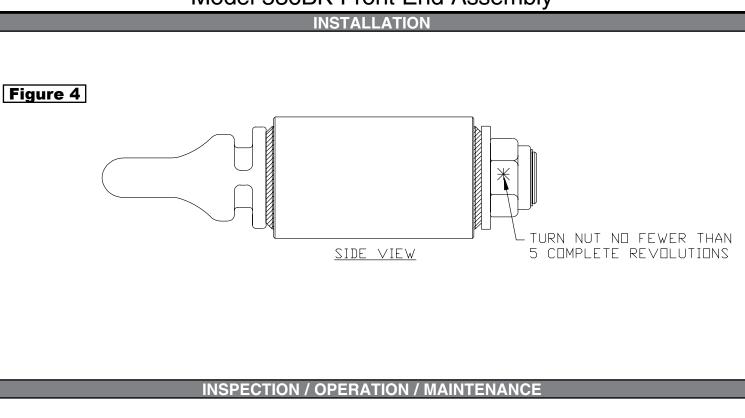


Model 536BK Front End Assembly



P

Model 536BK Front End Assembly



- Visually inspect the drawbar eye for cracks, impact damage and/or deformation before each and every use. Do NOT use if any of these conditions exist.
- 2. If the original cross-section of the eye loop has been reduced by 20% or greater, the drawbar eye is NOT to be used and is considered outof-service.
- 3. Over time, slack may develop between the bushings and drawbar eye. Therefore, clean and inspect every 90 days or sooner if your application dictates, and adjust or replace the bushings if slack is noted.
- 4. This product is designed to be operated within its free rotation limits. It is the responsibility of the vehicle designer/end user to assure that these limits are not exceeded (not binding/ jackknife).
- 5. WARNING: Prior to towing, make certain that adequately rated safety chains have been properly connected.
- Never weld on any Premier drawbar eye in order to repair damaged or worn areas. Field and/or shop weld repairs are inadequate and may further weaken the drawbar eye.

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES that apply to all Premier Front End Assemblies

- Never attempt weld repair of damaged or worn drawbar eyes or front end assemblies
- Clean and inspect drawbar eyes and eye assemblies for damage or excessive wear before each and every use
- All welds should be performed by a certified welder skilled in structural welding practices
- Drawbar structure as well as welds attaching front end assembly to drawbar must be of sufficient strength to withstand the load rating of the drawbar eye
- Do not bind-up (Jackknife) any application as stresses can cause damage to products or components, resulting in failure and detachment of the trailer while in use
- Do not apply lubricants to the coupling hook or drawbar eye loop, as they can cover up possible damage and accelerate wear



WELDING PROCEDURES

WELDING PROCEDURE SPECIFICATION (WPS) Yes (X) PREQUALIFIED (X) QUALIFIED BY TESTING (X) or PROCEDURE QUALIFICATION RECORD (PQR) Yes (X)

~	NA A \A/	Identification #: F						
<u>e</u>	<u>SMAW</u>	Revision 0	Date: 2/1/	00	By: PI			
Company Name: Premier	Manufacturing Co.	Authorized By:	Date:					
Welding Process(es): GM	AW	Type: Manual:		Semi-Au	itomatic: (X)			
Supporting PQR No.(s): N	I/A Prequalified	Machine:		Automat	ic:			
JOINT DESIGN USED		POSITION						
Type: All Fillets, Butts (Se	Position of Groov	ve: 1G, 2G		Filet: 1F, 2F				
Single (X)	Double Weld (X)	Vertical Progress	sion: Up (X)		Down ()			
Backing: Yes (X)	No (X)	LECTRICAL CH	ARACTERISTIC	s				
Backing Material: M1-P1-	S1 Group 1 &2	Transfer Mode (GMAW) short-cir	cuiting ()				
Root Opening:	Root Face Dimension:	Globular (X) Spray (X)						
Groove Angle:	Radius (J-U):	Current: AC () DCEP(X) DCEN () Pulsed ()						
Back Gouging: Yes (X) N	lo (X) Method: Mech/Thermal	Other:						
BASE METALS		TECHNIQUE						
Material Spec.: M1-P1-S1	1026 Carbon Steel	Stringer or Weav	Stringer or Weave Bead: String or Weave					
Type or Grade: Group 1 &	42	Multi-Pass or Single Pass (per side): Single, Multiple						
Thickness: Groove: 1/8 -	1 1/8" Fillet: Unlimited	Number of electrodes: Single						
Diameter (Pipe): 4" minim	ium	Electrode Spacir	ig:	Longitudina	al:			
FILLER METALS				Lateral:				
AWS Specification: A5.18	1			Angle:				
AWS Classification: E705	5-1	Contact Tube to Work Distance: 3/4" ±1/8"						
SHIELDING		Peening: Recommended						
Flux:	Gas: CO ²	Interpass Cleaning: Mechanical						
	Composition: 100%	POSTWELD HE	AT TREATMEN	Г				
Electrode-Flux (Class)	Flow Rate: 30-50 cfh	Temp.:						
	Gas Cup Size: 1/2" Dia.	Time:						
PREHEAT								
Preheat Temp.: Min.: 100	°F							
Interpass Temp.: Min. 10	D°F Max.: 500°F							

WELDING PROCEDURE

		Filler N	Vietals	Cu	rrent			Joint Details
Pass or Weld Layer(s)	Process	Class	Diam.	Type & Polarity	Amps or Wire Feed Speed	Volts	Travel Speed	See Attached
All	GMAW	E70S-X	0.035	DCEP	190-230	22-31	13 ±1 IPM	
All	GMAW	E70S-X	0.045	DCEP	260-290	27-31	13 ±1 IPM	

WELDING PROCEDURE SPECIFICATION (WPS) Yes (X) PREQUALIFIED (X) QUALIFIED BY TESTING () or PROCEDURE QUALIFICATION RECORD (PQR) Yes ()

0		Identification #: PMSMA-1							
5	MAW	Revision 0	Date: 2/1/00	i i	By: PI				
Company Name: Premier	Manufacturing Co.	Authorized By:	Authorized By: Date:						
Welding Process(es): SM	Type: Manuai: (X)		Semi-A	utomatic:					
Supporting PQR No.(s): N	I/A (Pre-Qualified)	Machine:	٦.	Automa	tic:				
JOINT DESIGN USED	POSITION	Υ							
Type: All Fillets-Butts (See	Position of Groove:	All	Fille	et: All					
Single (X)	Double Weld (X)	Vertical Progression	n: Up (X)	Dov	wn ()				
Backing: Yes (X)	No (X)	ELECTRICAL CHA	RACTERISTICS						
Backing Material: M1-P1-S	Transfer Mode (GN		ting ()						
Root Opening:	Root Face Dimension:		Globular () Spray ()						
Groove Angle:	Radius (J-U):	Current: AC () DCEP (X) DCEN () Pulsed ()							
Back Gouging: Yes (X) N	o (X) Method: Mech/Thermal	Other:							
BASE METALS		TECHNIQUE							
Material Spec.: M1-P1-S1	1026 Carbon Steel	Stringer or Weave I	Stringer or Weave Bead: String and Weave						
Type or Grade: Group 1 a	nd 2	Multi-Pass or Single Pass (per side): Multiple/Single							
Thickness: Groove: 1/8"-1	1/2 Fillet: Unlimited	Number of electrodes: Single							
Diameter (Pipe): 4* Minim	um	Electrode Spacing:							
FILLER METALS			Lateral: N/A						
AWS Specification. A5.1 -	A5.5		Angle: N/A						
AWS Classification: E7018	8	Contact Tube to Work Distance: N/A							
SHIELDING		Peening: Recomme	Peening: Recommended						
Flux:	Gas: N/A	Interpass Cleaning: Mechanical Only							
	Composition: N/A	POSTWELD HEAT	TREATMENT						
Electrode-Flux (Class)	Flow Rate: N/A	Temp.: N/A							
	Gas Cup Size: N/A	Time: N/A							
PREHEAT									
Preheat Temp. Min.: 100°I									
Interpass Temp., Min.: 100	0°F Max.: 500°F								

		Filler	letals	Cu	rrent		Joint De	
Pass or Weld Layer(s)	Process	Class	Diam.	Type & Polarity	(Amps) or Wire Feed Speed	Volts	Travel Speed	See Attached And AWS D1.1
All	SMAW	E7018	3/32"	DCEP	70-110	19-22	As	
All	SMAW	E7018	1/8"	DCEP	90-150	20-24	Required	
Ali	SMAW	E7018	5/32"	DCEP	120-190	20-24	1	

WELDING PROCEDURE SPECIFICATION (WPS) Yes (X) PREQUALIFIED (X) QUALIFIED BY TESTING () or PROCEDURE QUALIFICATION RECORD (PQR) Yes ()

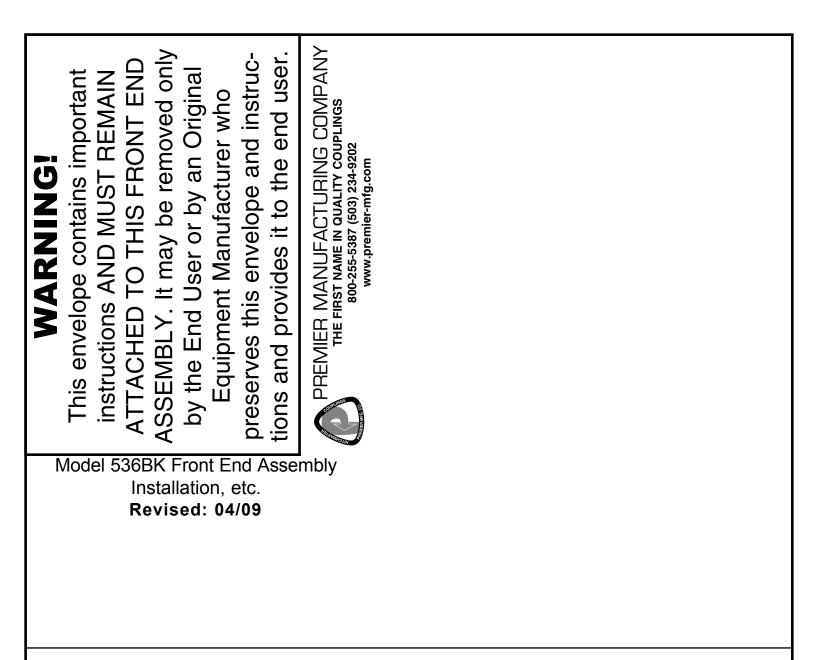
	EC ANA/	Identification #: PMFC-1						
	<u>FCAW</u>	Revision 0 Date: 2/1/00	By: PI					
Company Name: Premier	Manufacturing Co.	Authorized By:						
Welding Process(es): FCA	w	Type: Manual: (X) Semi-Automatic:						
Supporting PQR No.(s): N	/A (Pre-Qualified)	Machine:	Auto	matic:				
JOINT DESIGN USED		POSITION						
Type: All Fillets-Butts (See	Attached)	Position of Groove: All		Fillet: All				
Single (X)	Double Weld (X)	Vertical Progression: U	p (X)	Down ()				
Backing: Yes (X)	No(X)	ELECTRICAL CHARA	•					
Backing Material: M1-P1-S	\$1, Group 1 &2	Transfer Mode (GMAW) short-circuiting ()				
Root Opening:	Root Face Dimension:	Globular (X) Spray (X)						
Groove Angle:	Radius (J-U):	Current: AC () DCEP(X) DCEN () Pulsed ()						
Back Gouging: Yes (X) No	o (X) Method: Mech/Thermal	Other:						
BASE METALS		TECHNIQUE						
Material Spec.: M1-P1-S1	1026 Carbon Steel	Stringer or Weave Bear	d: String and Weav	/e				
Type or Grade: Group 1 a	nd 2	Multi-Pass or Single Pass (per side): Multiple/Single						
Thickness: Groove: 1/8"-1	//2" Fillet: Unlimited	Number of electrodes: Single						
Diameter (Pipe): 4" Minim	um	Electrode Spacing:	Longitudinal: N	N/A				
FILLER METALS			Lateral: N/A					
AWS Specification: A5.20			Angle: N/A					
AWS Classification: E70T-	-1/E71T-1	Contact Tube to Work Distance: 3/4" ±1/4"						
SHIELDING		Peening: Recommended						
Flux:	Gas: CO ²	Interpass Cleaning: Me	chanical Only					
	Composition: 100%	POSTWELD HEAT TR	EATMENT					
Electrode-Flux (Class)	Flow Rate: 30-50 cfh	Temp.: N/A						
	Gas Cup Size: 1/2" Dia. Min.	Time: N/A						
PREHEAT								
Preheat Temp.: Min.: 100*	۴							
InterpassTemp.: Min. 100°	°F Max.: 500°F							

WELDING PROCEDURE Current Joint Details Filler Metals Pass or Weld Layer(s) (Amps) or Wire Feed Speed Travel Speed Process Class Diam. Type& Polarity Volts See Attached And AWS D1.1 All FCAW E70T-1 0.045 DCEP DCEP 180-280 24-28 As E71T-1 0.052 190-300 24-29 Required All FCAW 24-29 All FCAW 0.068 DCEP 210-350 Ail FCAW 5/64" DCEP 250-400 26-30

ATTENTION ! End Users must read and follow this information. **DISTRIBUTORS & OEM'S:** Please ensure that your customers are made aware of the following information on this page. (1) VERIFY THAT BOTH COUPLING'S AND (8) DO NOT APPLY LUBRICANTS TO THE COUPLING DRAWBAR EYE'S RATED CAPACITIES MEET HOOK OR DRAWBAR EYE LOOP, AS THEY YOUR APPLICATION(S) REQUIREMENTS. CAN COVER UP POSSIBLE DAMAGE AND ACCELERATE WEAR. (2) DO NOT OVERLOAD COUPLING OR DRAWBAR EYE. (9) ALWAYS ABIDE BY ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS GOVERNING SAFE (3) INSPECT COUPLING, LATCH AND DRAWBAR AND PROPER TRANSPORTATION. EYE FOR CRACKS, BENDING DAMAGE OR EXCESSIVE WEAR. DO NOT USE IF ANY OF (10) NEVER STRIKE ANY OF THESE COMPONENTS **THESE CONDITIONS EXIST!** WITH A HAMMER OR ANY OTHER DEVICE. (4) CHECK FOR GAP BETWEEN CLOSED LATCH (11) ALWAYS VERIFY PROPER OPERATION AND TOP OF HORN OR COUPLING BALL. OF LATCHING SYSTEM AND COUPLING DO NOT USE IF GAP IS 3/8 IN. OR MORE. COMPONENTS PRIOR TO DRIVE OFF. (5) MAKE SURE COUPLING IS LATCHED AND THAT (12) NEVER USE A COUPLING THAT YOU DO NOT LATCH WILL NOT OPEN. FULLY UNDERSTAND HOW TO PROPERLY OPERATE AND VERIFY SECURE LATCHING OF. (6) PRIOR TO USE, ALWAYS CONNECT SAFETY (13) NEVER REPLACE ANY PART IN ANY OF CHAINS OF ADEQUATE STRENGTH FOR LOAD(S) BEING TOWED. PREMIER'S ASSEMBLIES WITH NON-PREMIER COMPONENTS. DOING SO WILL VOID ALL (7) DO NOT BIND-UP (JACKKNIFE) ANY WARRANTY AND POTENTIALLY COMPROMISE APPLICATION AS STRESSES CAN CAUSE THE UNIT'S INTEGRITY, WHICH COULD RESULT DAMAGE TO THE COUPLING, DRAWBAR EYE, IN PROPERTY DAMAGE, SERIOUS INJURY, OR OTHER COMPONENTS OR ANY COMBINATION DEATH. OF THEM. JACKKNIFING MAY RESULT IN FAILURE OF PRODUCTS OR COMPONENTS, **RESULTING IN DETACHMENT OF THE TRAILER** WHILE IN USE.

CONTINUE TO NEXT PAGE FOR

IMPORTANT INFORMATION.



WARRANTY: We warrant all Premier products to be free from defects in material or workmanship for one year. We will repair or replace, at our option, any Premier product which our examination reveals to be defective, provided that the product is returned to our factory, at Tualatin, Oregon transportation prepaid, within one year of purchase by the first retail purchaser. Our warranty does not extend to products which have been subject to misuse, neglect, improper installation, maintenance or application, nor does our warranty extend to products which have been repaired or altered outside of Premier's facility unless the repair or alteration has been expressly authorized in writing by Premier. *This warranty is in lieu of all other warranties, express or implied, and excludes warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose and otherwise, and in no event will Premier be liable for incidental, special, contingent or consequential damages.*

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