



**LIPPERT**  
COMPONENTS®

Formerly  Atwood Mobile Products

LITERATURE NUMBER MPD 75026

# GOOSENECK COUPLERS


## ENGLISH


## •Installation •Operation •Maintenance

Effective 11/21/07

### SAFETY ALERT SYMBOLS

Safety Symbols alerting you to potential personal safety hazards. Obey all safety messages following these symbols.

 **WARNING**  
Avoid possible  
injury or death

 **CAUTION**  
Avoid possible  
injury and/or property damage

### FOR YOUR SAFETY READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE INSTALLATION AND OPERATION

**Installer:** Provide these instructions to the consumer.  
**Consumer:** Keep documents for future reference.

The Atwood Gooseneck Coupler or Gooseneck Coupler and Stem is a ball type coupler designed to be used on trailers that are towed by vehicles having the ball mounted above and forward of the rear axle.

Identify Gooseneck Coupler and follow correct installation and maintenance instructions for that part number.

## INSTALLATION

 **CAUTION**  
**HAZARDOUS FUMES**

- Adequate ventilation must be provided when welding.

### WELDING INSTRUCTIONS

- **M.I.G. OR STICK** - Make 5/16" fillet welds minimum. Use No. E6011 AWS welding rod, 5/16" diameter. Machine amps (AC or DCRP) 2 160-180 amps with 50 volts.
- **M.I.G. WELDING** - Use A.W.S. ER 70S-3 or 6 wire or equivalent with a diameter of .035 - .045. The recommended shielding gas mixture is 75% - 95% Argon & 25% - 5% CO<sub>2</sub>.
- **STICK WELDING** - Use E6011 A.W.S. welding rod or equivalent with a diameter are as follows: 1/8" electrode set power between 115-130 Amps DC or 5/32" electrode set power between 140-160 Amps DC.

### MPD 75025 GOOSENECK COUPLER 25,000 LB. CAP.

**Max. Gross Vehicle Weight:** 25,000 lbs.  
**Ball Size:** 2-5/16" diameter  
**Vertical Load Capacity:** 5,000 lbs.

This gooseneck coupler must be installed **ONLY** by welding to the gooseneck tube of gooseneck type trailers.

1. Center ball cup 1-A inside the end of gooseneck tube 1-B. Line up the guide 1-C ramp toward forward end of trailer.
2. Attach coupler to gooseneck tube by welding all around where tube base meets coupler. Use 5/16" fillet weld No. E6011 AWS welding rod 5/16" diameter. Machine amps (AC or DCRP) @ 160-180 with 50 volts.
3. See **Coupling and Uncoupling Procedures and Maintenance**.

### GOOSENECK COUPLER WITH STEM

DROP TUBE STEM WITH COUPLER

MPD 75401

SCREW ADJUSTABLE STEM WITH COUPLER

MPD 75004

**Max. Gross Vehicle Weight:** 25,000 lbs.  
**Ball Size:** 2-5/16" diameter  
**Vertical Load Capacity:** 5,000 lbs.

### DROP TUBE AND SCREW ADJUSTABLE STEM APPLICATIONS -

1. Weld the outer tube to the trailer frame and gusset the tube with side plates of sufficient capacity for the trailer GVRW and design.
2. Weld the top and bottom of the side plates. Weld both sides of the plates 4-A.
3. Weld the top and bottom areas where the trailer frame meets the gooseneck stem. 4-B
4. Weld the entire length of the side plates where they meet the trailer frame. Weld both sides. 4-C
5. Dimensional limits for gooseneck attachment:  
3-C 3/8" thick side plates      3-D 3/4"      3-E 24-3/16"  
3-F 8" minimum      3-H 3-1/2" maximum  
3-G 2-1/16" minimum to 12-1/16" maximum
6. Check all welds for correct size, penetration and location.

## OPERATION

 **WARNING**

### PERSONAL INJURY / PRODUCT DAMAGE

- Safe towing practice requires the proper use of safety chains used in accordance with instructions provided by the trailer manufacturer.
- Use only a 2-5/16" diameter hitch ball with the correct towing weight capacity.
- Check that the ball has been completely inserted into the coupler ball socket and the ball clamp (inside the coupler) is closed around the underside of the tow ball and the latch is in the closed position.
- The loaded weight of the trailer must never exceed the minimum capacity marked on the coupler, tow ball, hitch, trailer or vehicle.
- Check coupler, hitch and ball for damage or wear before each use. Assure all parts operate freely. Replace any component if worn or damaged.
- Failure to follow warnings and instructions could result in separation of tow vehicle and trailer which can result in death, personal injury and property damage.
- Use caution when backing or towing vehicle for hook-up, damage to coupler may result.

### DROP-TUBE STEM & COUPLER

MPD 75401

1. Put the drop-tube stem in the proper position before connecting it to the hitch ball in the pick-up bed. This will allow level towing of the trailer. Adjustments can be every 2", up to 10" maximum 4-D.
2. Adjust the stem so your truck/trailer combination is in a correct level towing position. When adjusting the stem all weight must be off the gooseneck stem and coupler. Use the trailer jacks to raise the coupler off the hitch ball above the truck bed before removing the 1" diameter bolt from the stem. Raise or lower the stem as needed. Replace the bolt and nut. Tighten to 100 ft./lbs. torque.
3. See **Coupling and Uncoupling Procedures and Maintenance**.

### SCREW ADJUSTABLE STEM & COUPLER

MPD 75004

1. The adjustable screw stem is adjustable over a 10" length 3-G. This stem can level the trailer before or after hook-up is made to the hitch ball in the pick-up bed.
2. To raise the trailer, lift the adjustable stem handle 3-B and turn it counterclockwise ↺.
3. To lower the trailer, lift the adjustable stem handle 3-B and turn it clockwise ↻.
4. See **Coupling and Uncoupling Procedures and Maintenance**.

## COUPLING PROCEDURE

MPD 75401 & 75004

1. On level ground place wheel chocks in front and behind wheels, both sides of the trailer (4 chocks).
2. FIG 1 shows coupler handle in a latched position. To open, rotate handle FIG 2-D counterclockwise a sufficient amount to allow handle tab FIG 1-E to clear rivet tab FIG 1-F, then pull handle away from coupler and position handle tab under rivet on outside of rivet tab as in FIG 2.
3. Adjust trailer jacks until coupler is at level height or slightly lower (by 1") than top of hitch ball.
4. Lower tailgate of truck.
5. Back truck slowly toward trailer until coupler drops into place over the ball. Check to see that the ball has entered the ball cup of the gooseneck coupler.
6. Coupler will not completely lock into place until trailer jacks are retracted.
7. Connect power line, breakaway switch line and safety chains between truck and trailer (see trailer manufacturer's instructions).
8. Retract trailer jacks.
9. Check to make sure that the handle is in latched position. Place lock pin FIG 2-G in holes of tabs FIG 2-H, pinning the handle in place.
10. Close and latch tailgate. Check all lights - stop, turn, tail, and brake lights for proper operation.
11. As an additional check before towing, extend jacks until truck is raised 3 to 4" to verify that coupler is securely attached to ball.
12. Completely retract trailer jacks.
13. Pick up and store wheel chocks.

## UNCOUPLING PROCEDURE

MPD 75401 & 75004

1. On level ground place wheel chocks in front and behind wheels, both sides of the trailer (4 chocks).
2. Lower trailer jacks. If on soft ground, place a support under the jack feet to prevent trailer from settling.
3. Lower tailgate on truck.
4. Remove the lock pin FIG 2-G and rotate handle counterclockwise. Pull handle FIG 2-D away from coupler and position the handle tab FIG 2-E under rivet on rivet tabs FIG 2-I.
5. Raise trailer until jacks lift coupler completely above the top of ball.
6. Disconnect power line, breakaway switch line and safety chains between truck and trailer.
7. Drive truck slowly away from under trailer.

## MAINTENANCE



### WARNING

#### PERSONAL INJURY / PROPERTY DAMAGE

- Replace worn or damaged parts.
- Do not tow trailer with worn or damaged parts.

#### GOOSENECK COUPLER

MPD 75025

1. Monthly, clean ball cup and clamp, lubricate with wheel bearing grease.
2. Monthly, apply SAE 30 oil at points where the handle rotates at sides of coupler.
3. Check ball and coupler before each trip for wear.

#### DROP-TUBE STEM & COUPLER

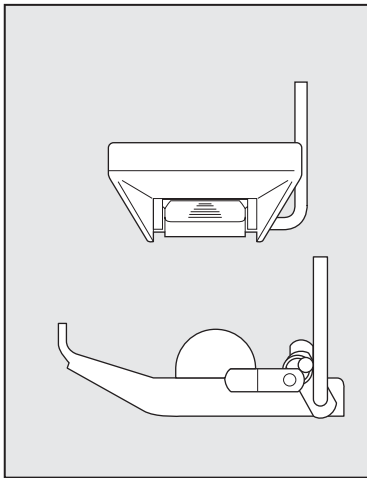
MPD 75401

1. Before each use check torque on the 1" diameter bolt 4-E, it should be 100 ft/lbs.

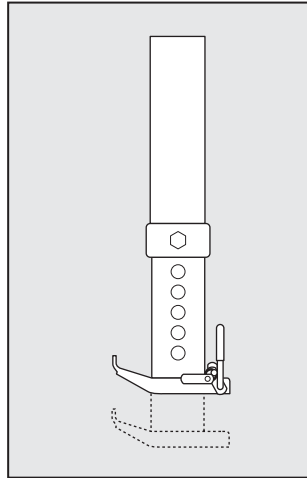
#### SCREW ADJUSTABLE STEM & COUPLER

MPD 75004

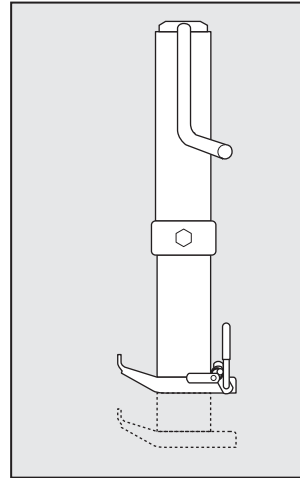
1. On level ground place wheel chocks in front and behind wheels, both sides of the trailer (4 chocks). Disconnect the coupler from the hitch ball.
2. To lubricate the adjustable stem, extend the coupler as far as possible, and squirt SAE 30 oil into the top of the stem where the screw extends out of the top.
3. After oiling, completely retract the stem, and reposition it as described in Operation Instructions.



75025



75401



75004

