

ISO/TS16949 REGISTERED  
TB-050 • Revised August 2019

### Service Maintenance

Fontaine® fifth wheel recommends that standard maintenance should be performed on the fifth wheel every 90 days or 50,000 miles, whichever comes first. The maintenance should include cleaning, visual inspection, lubrication, and checking the wedge stop rod adjustment.

**Cleaning:** Clean both fifth wheel and mounting brackets with suitable degreaser every 90 days or 50,000 miles, whichever comes first.

Note: For inspection and lubrication the fifth wheel needs to be locked in the closed position.

**Inspection:** Visually examine the fifth wheel assembly inspecting for the items below:

1. Cracks in the fifth wheel assembly, mounting brackets and mounting parts.
2. Wear and/or damage to moving parts.
3. Free the operation of the secondary locking spring in the 5092 series only.
4. Loose nuts and bolts on the mounting hardware and in the fifth wheel assembly.
5. Securely fastened and properly working springs.
6. Check to see if both bracket pins are in place and secured by retainer pins and cotter pins.
7. Allow the fifth wheel to rock freely from front to rear on the brackets with the greaseless liners (i.e. ATB). If the fifth wheel does not rock freely, remove the top plate and inspect the bracket liners. Replace liners that are broken or have worn excessively. Replace liners every 300,000 miles in standard duty applications and every 180,000 miles in moderate or severe duty applications. Check the thickness of the bracket liner at all scheduled maintenance. Replace liners if the thickness is less than .125" at the top of the liners. See technical bulletin TB-028 for the LWS replacement procedure and technical bulletin TB-054 for the Ultra NT replacement procedure.

**Lubrication:** Procedure for proper lubrication is found in the items below:

1. Tilt the top plate forward (front of the fifth wheel down), using a suitable pry bar and apply slight upward pressure on the rear of the fifth wheel. Apply grease to the bearing pocket through the fitting or fittings located on each side of the top plate next to the bracket pins.

Note: The 6000/7000/7000cc series uses two grease fittings on each side of the wheels. This is also true for the Ultra HD and HR series. The H5092, X5092, and the Ultra LT series uses only one grease fitting on each side of the wheel.

Refer to Figure 2 for the placement of the grease fittings. Continue to apply grease until it begins to come out the back of the bearing pocket. Tilt the top plate to the rear (rear of the fifth wheel down). Apply slight upward pressure on the front of the fifth wheel and repeat the procedure. Rock the top plate back and forth several times to distribute the grease across the bearing surface. It is important to remember to grease all of the moving parts and pivot points of the fifth wheel in order to ensure that the primary and secondary locking mechanisms are working properly.

2. Use a suitable grease/oil, lubricate the jaw and wedge by prying them slightly apart with a flat tipped screwdriver. Apply liberal amounts of grease/oil on and in between the jaw and wedge (see Figure 1). Lightly grease all the other moving parts of the fifth wheel that are shown with arrows in Figure 2.



Separate the jaw and wedge with the screw driver here – grease the full length

Figure 1: Close up image of the jaw and wedge of a fifth wheel

3. For sliding fifth wheels, lightly oil the locking mechanism. Operating the mechanism (air or manual) several times to ensure it is functioning properly.
4. Apply a liberal coating of grease to the top surface of the fifth wheel. Start at the back of the fifth wheel and decrease the amount of grease as you move forward. Apply grease to the trailer kingpin plate as well.

Clean, oil, and grease all moving parts (arrows)

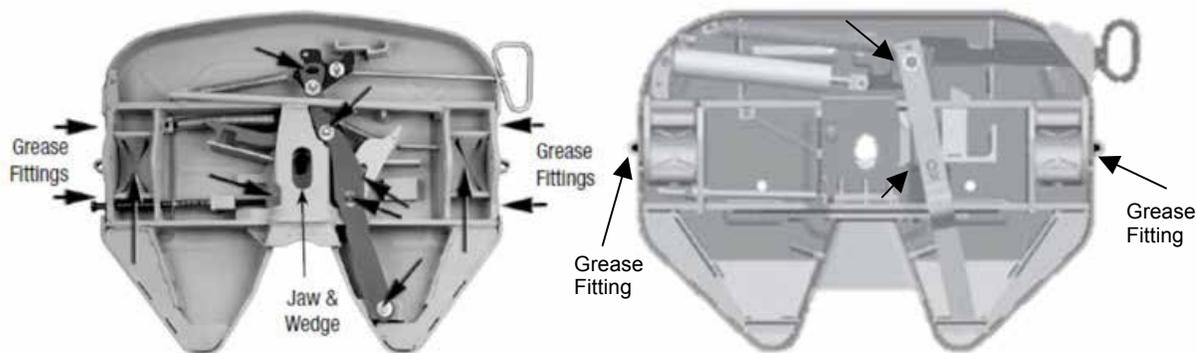
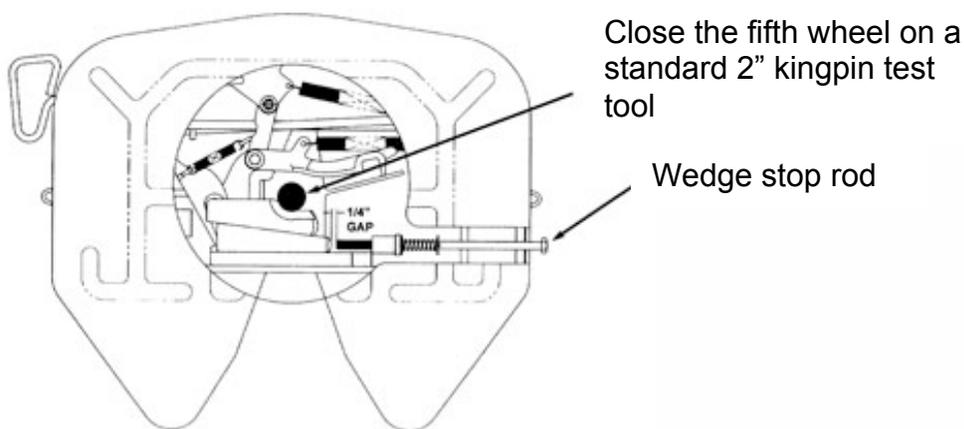


Figure 2: Image of the locking mechanism of Fontaine fifth wheels

**Wedge Stop Rod Setting:** Refer to Figure 3 for this procedure. Close the fifth wheel on a standard 2" kingpin test tool. Push on the wedge stop rod that extends from the side of the top plate and looks like the head of a bolt. It should move in 1/4" with hand pressure, and then spring back out. Turn the wedge stop rod *clockwise to reduce* the dimension and *counter-clockwise to increase* the dimension to obtain a proper setting. Adjust until the free travel is 1/4". This will ensure that the automatic slack adjustment feature of the Fontaine fifth wheel is functioning properly.



**Figure 3: Image of the test kingpin and the wedge stop rod**

If an issue with service maintenance has not been fully addressed by this technical bulletin, please contact Fontaine Fifth Wheel at 800.874.9780.