

OPERATOR & SAFETY MANUAL

Truck Deck
Information Supplement

www.trailtech.com



CUSTOMER ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Customer handbook describes important information about this Trailtech product and I understand that I should consult my Dealer representative regarding any questions not answered in this handbook.

I have received the handbook, and I understand that it is my responsibility (and I agree) to read and comply with all the information contained in the following:

Owner's Information form with the attachments
Limited Warranty Certificate

Purchaser: _____

Date: _____

Serial Number: _____

Please Send Completed Warranty Card To:

**Trailtech Inc.
Box 988, Gravelbourg, Saskatchewan S0H 1X0**

Owner's Information

Date Purchased: _____

Model No: _____

Serial No: _____

Dealership Where Purchased: _____

*Please record this information, as it may be required when ordering parts.

Trailtech Five Year Limited Warranty

Trailtech Inc. (Trailtech) extends the following warranty to the original owner of its products including therein the Utility, Recreational, Construction, Premier, Commercial, Industrial, Dump, and Truck Deck Series.

Within a period of Five years (60 months) after the initial purchase, and when owned by the original purchaser, any Trailtech products, or part thereof, that upon inspection at Trailtech factory, is proved defective in material and workmanship, shall be repaired or replaced, at Trailtech's option, without charge to the owner. This warranty shall not apply with respect to any defect arising from a buyer's or user's willful damage, negligence, abnormal working conditions, failure to follow Trailtech instruction (whether oral or in writing), misuse, or alteration or repair of the product without Trailtech's expressed written approval.

Trailtech does not warranty components not manufactured by Trailtech, such as but not limited to axles, suspensions, suspension parts, suspension hardware, brake linings, brake components, bearings, tires, wheels, center caps, lights, jacks, couplers, safety chains, breakaway kits, or brake systems which are covered by their respective manufacturers warranties.

Within a period of one year (12 month) warranty will apply to electrical wiring and paint. Warranty to paint does not include deterioration or damage from road elements, improper washing or use of solvents when washing, sand, salt, rocks, or other weather conditions.

Normal wear on any items will not be subject to warranty. Normal wear items include, but are not limited to, tires, bearings, brake linings, lights, and hoses.

In all cases, Trailtech's liability is expressly limited to the repair or replacement of the defective parts, or defective product, or refund of the purchase price, at Trailtech's option. Trailtech shall have no liability for transportation, installation, or removal costs. Trailtech products, or parts therefore cannot be returned without a Return Good Authorization number, which must be obtained by telephoning Trailtech at (306) 648-3158.

THE WARRANTIES SET FORTH HEREIN ARE EXCLUSIVE AND NO OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESSED, OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY WARRANTY OR MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE MADE BY TRAILTECH OR ARE MADE AUTHORIZED TO BE MADE WITH RESPECT TO THE PRODUCT.

TRAILTECH'S SOLE OBLIGATION IN THE EVENT OF A DEFECTIVE PART OR PRODUCT SHALL BE TO REPAIR OR REPLACE, IN TRAILTECH'S SOLE DISCRETION, THE DEFECTIVE PRODUCT OR PART. IN NO EVENT SHALL TRAILTECH BE LIABLE FOR INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL LOSSES OR DAMAGES (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO INTERRUPTION OR BUSINESS OR LOSS OF BUSINESS OR PROFIT) RESULTING FROM THE USE OR INABILITY TO USE THE PRODUCT, ANY BREACH OR WARRANTY OR DEFECT IN THE PRODUCT EVEN IF TRAILTECH SHALL HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH POTENTIAL LOSSES OR DAMAGES.

WARNING

This User's Manual contains safety information and instructions for your Truck Deck.

You must read this manual before loading or using your truck Deck.

You must follow all safety precautions and instructions.

1.0 Reporting Safety Defects

This portion of the Owner's Manual contains Notification Statement information required by CMVSS, a part of Transport Canada.

If you believe that your vehicle has a defect which could cause a crash or could cause injury or death, you should immediately inform the Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standards in addition to notifying Trailtech Inc.

If CMVSS receives similar complaints, it may open an investigation and if it finds that a safety defect exists in a group of vehicles, it may order a recall and remedy campaign. However, CMVSS cannot become involved in individual problems between you, your dealer, or Trailtech Inc.

To contact CMVSS, call 1-800-333-0371 (800-424-9153) or email mvs-sa@tc.gc.ca

Safety Information

1.1. SAFETY

Loss of control of the vehicle or tow vehicle/load combination can result in death or serious injury. The most common causes for loss of control of the vehicle include:

- Driving too fast for the conditions
- Overloading the Truck Deck or loading the Truck Deck unevenly;

Truck Deck Components

Our truck decks are built with components produced by various manufacturers. Some of these items have separate instruction manuals. Where this manual indicates that you should read another manual, and you do not have that manual, call Trailtech Inc. at (306) 648-3158 for a free copy.

The safety information in this manual is denoted by the safety alert symbol:

The level of risk is indicated by the following signal words.

DANGER

DANGER - Immediate hazards which WILL result in severe personal injury or death if the warning is ignored.

WARNING

WARNING - Hazards or unsafe practices which COULD result in severe personal injury or death if the warning is ignored.

CAUTION

CAUTION - Hazards or unsafe practices which could result in minor or moderate injury if the warning is ignored.

NOTICE

NOTICE - Practices that could result in damage to the trailer or other property.

1.2. MAJOR HAZARDS

1.2.1. Driving Too Fast

With ideal road conditions, the maximum speed when safely towing a trailer is 100 kph. As your speed increases, you are more likely to suddenly lose control.

WARNING

Driving too fast for conditions can result in loss of control and cause death or serious injury.

Decrease your speed as road, weather and lighting conditions deteriorate.

1.2.2. Overload

The total weight of the load you put in or on the truck deck, plus the empty weight of the truck deck itself, must not exceed the truck's Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR). If you do not know the empty weight of the truck, you must measure it at a commercial scale. In addition, you must distribute the load on the deck such that the load on any tire or axle does not exceed the tire load rating or the Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR).

WARNING

An overloaded truck can result in loss of control of the truck, leading to death or serious injury.

Do not exceed the truck Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) or an axle Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR).

Do not load a truck so that the weight on any tire exceeds its rating.

1.2.3. Unsafe Load Distribution

Uneven load distribution can cause tire, wheel, axle or structural failure. Be sure your deck is properly loaded.

A proper weight distribution is equal, right to left; and creates a positive front axle weight that is in the proper range for stable truck handling. For any truck, it is necessary to know or check that no axle is overloaded.

WARNING

Improper front axle weight (load distribution) can result in loss of control of the truck, leading to death or serious injury.

Make certain that front axle weight is within the allowable range.

Be sure to:

- Distribute the load front-to-rear to provide proper front axle weight (see chart);
- Distribute the load evenly, right and left, to avoid tire overload; and
- Keep the center of gravity low.

Load stability also depends on keeping the center of gravity as low as possible. Load heavy items on the floor, and over the rear axles, but do not exceed the axle load rating (GAWR). When loading additional items, be sure to maintain even side-to-side weight distribution and proper front axle weight.

1.2.4. Shifting Cargo

Since the truck "ride" can be bumpy and rough, you must secure your cargo so that it does not shift while the truck is being driven.

WARNING

Shifting cargo can result in loss of control of the truck, and can lead to death or serious injury.

Tie down all loads with proper sized fasteners, ropes, straps, etc.

Your deck is designed to carry general cargo. A truck deck must not be used to carry certain items, such as people, containers of hazardous substances or containers of flammable substances.

WARNING

Do not transport people on the deck, even if it has living quarters. The transport of people puts their lives at risk and may be illegal.

WARNING

Do not transport flammable, explosive, poisonous or other dangerous materials on your truck deck.

Exceptions:

- Fuel in the tanks of vehicles that are being towed
- Fuel stored in proper containers used in trailer living quarters for cooking
- Fuel stored in the tank of an on-board generator

1.2.5. Inoperable Brakes, Lights or Mirrors

Be sure that the brakes and all of the lights on your truck deck are functioning properly.

WARNING

Before moving:

- Check that the taillights, brake lights and turn signals work

Standard mirrors usually do not provide adequate visibility for viewing traffic to the sides and rear of a loaded truck deck. You must provide mirrors that allow you to safely observe approaching traffic.

1.2.6. Steps for Determining Correct Load Limit – Tow Vehicle

1. Locate the statement, "The combined weight of occupants and cargo should never exceed XXX lbs.," on your vehicle's placard.
2. Determine the combined weight of the driver and passengers who will be riding in your vehicle.
3. Subtract the combined weight of the driver and passengers from XXX kilograms or XXX pounds.
4. The resulting figure equals the available amount of cargo and luggage capacity. For example, if the "XXX" amount equals 1400 lbs. and there will be five 150 lb. passengers in your vehicle, the amount of available cargo and luggage capacity is 650 lbs. (1400-750 (5 x 150) = 650 lbs.).
5. Determine the combined weight of luggage and cargo being loaded on the vehicle. That weight may not safely exceed the available cargo and luggage capacity calculated in Step # 4.
6. If your vehicle will be towing a trailer, load from your trailer will be transferred to your vehicle. Consult the tow vehicle's manual to determine how this weight transfer reduces the available cargo and luggage capacity of your vehicle.

Truck Deck Design

Trailtech Truck Decks are designed such that after market hitches can be installed on the rear of the truck frame and not be affected by the Deck design. These hitches are rated by the manufacturer and these ratings must not be exceeded.

Many people have asked why we do not provide rear hitches on the back of our rear truck deck skirts. The reason is because we are not able to give the hitch a rated capacity because the capacity would be dependent on the deck installation onto the truck. This is something we are not able to control at the factory.

When installing a ball in the recessed ball mount, make certain that its capacity is greater than the GVWR of the trailer being towed. If you are unable to find a ball of proper capacity, call your dealer or Trailtech and they will be able to provide you with the proper hitch ball up to 40,000 lb. capacity.

When hauling heavy loads make certain to secure them to the stake pockets along the sides of the deck. Do not secure them to the headache rack only. The headache rack is designed to protect the truck cab from the cargo, not as a primary load securement.

There may be times when the inside rear view mirror of the truck will be obstructed by cargo on the deck. You may need to adjust your outside rear view mirrors to compensate for this.

The headache rack is designed such that overlength objects can be carried and rested on top. There are stops on each side to prevent these objects from falling off the sides. It is imperative that these objects be securely tied to the truck deck to prevent them from sliding off the back. It is important to periodically stop and check the securement of these over length objects.

Truck Deck Series

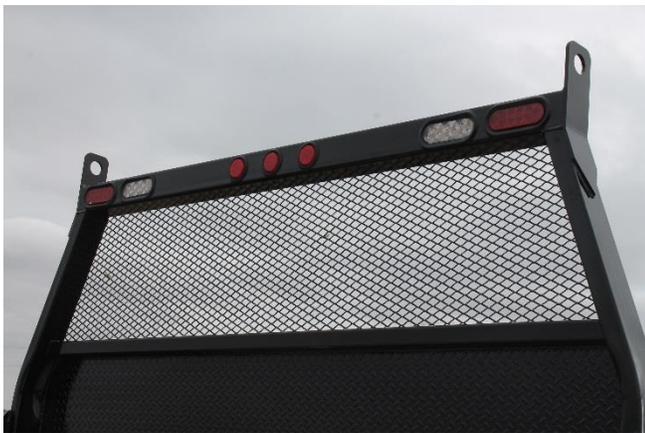
Truck Decks - 8'6" to 11' in length

Standard Application - Carrying Various Cargo

Alternative Application - Fuel or Water Tanks

Construction of Product:

- Deck frame 4" x 2" x .125" tubing
- Crossmembers 2" x 2" x .125" tubing
- 6" Channel iron sills
- Width of 7.5' or 8'
- Headache rack c/w louvered rear window guard
- Fir decking
- Recessed gooseneck hitch plate
- Rub rail c/w stake pockets
- Mud flaps
- Lights are rubber mounted & recessed LED
- Wiring harness
- Rear skirt



Headache Rack Rubber Mounted Lighting



Dedicated To Excellence



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3305

www.trailtech.com

Specifications and products may vary depending upon locale. Trailtech Inc. reserves the right to change or modify specific product and specifications without prior notice. Standard trailer models may be shown with options. For additional information and pricing contact your nearest Trailtech Inc. Dealership listed on our website www.trailtech.com. © 2004 Trailtech Inc. Printed in Canada.