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SERVICE BULLETIN

MAINTENANCE OF WAY EQUIPMENT

DATE: 6 - 2009

BULLETIN NO: 09-008

TITLE: Axle Inspection

RATING:

<input type="checkbox"/>	ALERT (Potential Problem)	<input type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION (Action Is Optional)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DIRECTIVE (Action Is Required)	<input type="checkbox"/>	PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT (Enhance Product)

PRODUCT SERIES / MODEL: HR1500 Series B2 and B3 HY-RAIL® Guide Wheel Units.

SERIAL NO: N/A

SUMMARY: It has come to the attention of Harsco Rail that axles are weakening or becoming stressed, including developing cracks and may break due to overloading vehicle GVWR and / or overloading the guide wheel unit and / or improper maintenance and adjustment procedures. The cracks are developing in the area near the stub axle mounting plate. This area of the guide wheel unit axle must be cleaned and visually inspected. If any cracks are found, the vehicle must be removed from service and the axle replaced with a new axle.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT: Operating the vehicle on rail with a cracked axle may result in a failure of the axle. A failure of the axle could result in possible derailment of the vehicle.

ACTION: Clean and visually inspect the both ends of the axle near the stub axle mounting plates. The cracks may first develop on the bottom and the front or rear sides of the axle. If any crack in the axle is found, the vehicle must be removed from service immediately and taken to an approved HY-RAIL® guide wheel unit repair facility. The facility must replace the axle before the vehicle can be returned to service.

CONTACT: If you have any questions or if we can be of any service, please contact the Fairmont, MN facility, HY-RAIL® Guide Wheel Equipment Service Department at (507) 235-7212 or to order parts, contact the Parts Department at (507) 235-7143 or (507) 235-7191.

Safety Information



- **FOLLOW APPLICABLE RAILROAD LOCKOUT - TAGOUT PROCEDURE TO DISABLE ENERGY SOURCES WHEN PERFORMING MAINTENANCE, MAKING ADJUSTMENTS OR REPAIRS TO THE VEHICLE OR EQUIPMENT. FAILURE TO HEED THIS WARNING COULD RESULT IN SEVERE BODILY INJURY.**

Causes of Axle Cracks

1. The HR1500 Series B2 and B3 axles are designed to perform without failure when properly maintained and without overloading. If cracks have developed on the guide wheel unit axle, the guide wheel unit has not been properly maintained and / or has been overloaded.

The maximum rated load on the front and / or rear guide wheel unit is:

Steel Tread Guide Wheels: 3,000 lbs (1361 kg) or 1,500 lbs (680 kg)
maximum per guide wheel.

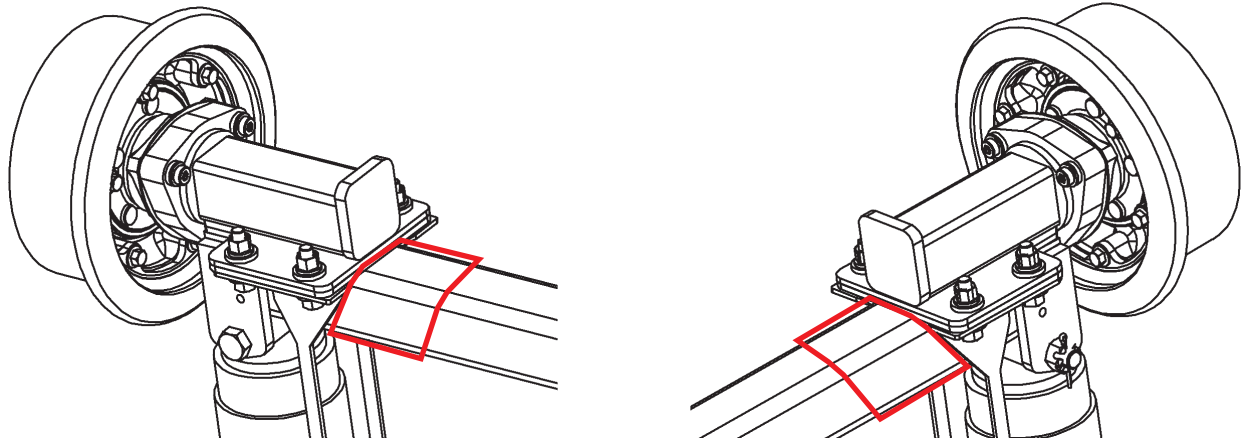
Rubber Tread Guide Wheels: 1,400 lbs (635 kg) or 700 lbs (318 kg)
maximum per guide wheel.

Inspecting Guide Wheel Unit Axle - See Figure 1

1. Clean the areas outlined in red as shown in Figure 1. If the area has a heavy buildup of dirt, grease or oil, power wash the area first. Use a wire brush to clean the area and then wipe the area clean with a shop rag. Visually inspect the area outlined in red. The cracks may be very small so it is important to carefully inspect the area.
2. If any cracks are found, The vehicle must be removed from service immediately and taken to an approved HY-RAIL® guide wheel unit repair facility. The facility must replace the axle. After the axle is replaced, the guide wheel unit load must be checked and if necessary, adjusted. The Guide Wheel Equipment Alignment Procedure must also be performed. Once completed, the vehicle can be returned to service.
3. See the Operator's Service and Parts Manual for guide wheel load specifications, checking guide wheel load, adjusting guide wheel load and lubrication instructions and frequency.
4. Harsco Rail recommends that you inspect the guide wheel unit daily or before each use as instructed in the guide wheel unit Operator's Service and Parts Manual.

Inspecting Guide Wheel Unit Axle

**FIGURE 1
AXLE INSPECTION**



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