

MELT Class 1 Driver Training

Coupling and Uncoupling

Meet Joe:

Father, truck driver, and cooking show enthusiast. Watch what happens when his life takes a bad turn after he injures his back while operating the landing gear on his trailer.

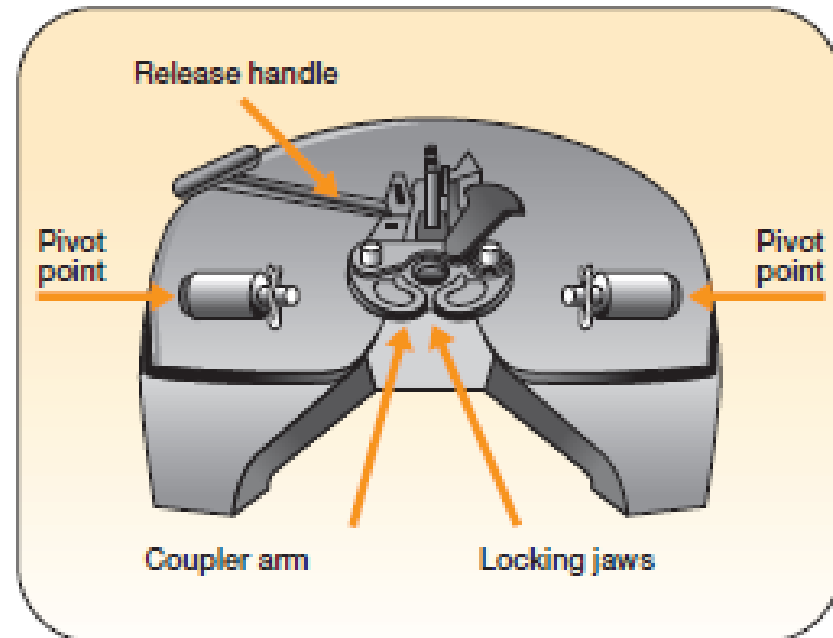
[Joe's Story: Short-Haul Truck Driver Safety \(3:07\)](#)

Sliding fifth wheel and trailer axles



Coupling a tractor-trailer

- Inspection of the yard
- Align tractor and trailer
- Inspection of the tractor
- Inspection of the trailer
- Align tractor and trailer
- Connect the trailer
- Tug Test
- Confirm 5th wheel locked
- Raise landing gear and connect lines
- Supply air check
- Brake tests



Air suspension

- Video (0:46) show how to use air suspension to help with coupling.

<https://safetydriven.ca/resource/making-your-truck-work-for-you-picking-up-the-trailer/>



Uncoupling a tractor-trailer

- Location inspection
- Park tractor-trailer in a straight line and secure the tractor
- Secure the tractor-trailer
- Adjust suspension
- Lower landing gear – stow the handle
- Remove connections
- Unlock and disengage fifth wheel
- Confirm stability of trailer
- Clear trailer

Using air suspension when dropping the trailer

<https://safetydriven.ca/resource/making-your-truck-work-for-you-dropping-the-trailer/> (1:12)

Coupling review

- Step-by-step instruction on how to uncouple and couple a tractor trailer. Presented by J-Tech.
- <https://youtu.be/VPJ1biinnx8> (13:30)