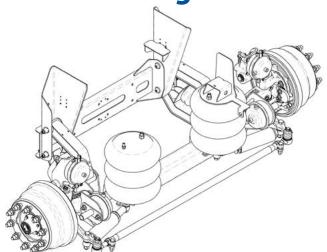
RSS-233 - 13K Truck

Self-Steering – Auxiliary Axle Suspension



Installation and Service Manual

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PART NO:

SUSP. NO:

SERIAL NO:

GROSS AXLE WEIGHT RATING CERTIFICATION IS PER THE FINAL STAGE MANUFACTURER OR ALTERER.

THIS PRODUCT MAY BE COVERED UNDER ONE OR MORE PATENTS, ADDITIONAL PATENTS MAY BE PENDING.

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(800) 641-4122

Suspension Identification Tag

The **Part Number** is listed as 606- Installation/ Assembly Number when other components are factory installed with the suspension. The **Suspension Number** and **Serial Number** refer to the individual suspension model and the date of manufacture.

Refer to the suspension number/part number and serial number when contacting Ridewell for customer service, replacement parts and warranty information.

Introduction

The RSS-233 13K Truck Suspension System is a fully integrated, auxiliary axle suspension system. The suspension can be configured with either drum or disc brake axle assemblies and optional steering lock.

The 233 13K Roll-Off Truck Suspension System should be configured with a drum-brake axle assembly.

Additional information on axle kingpin configurations and pivot bushing replacement is found in "233_232-Kingpin/Bushing-Parts Guide" (#9710033).

Notes and Cautions

Read through the entire Installation and Service Manual (ISM) before performing any procedures.

All work should be completed by a properly trained technician using the proper/special tools and safe work procedures.

The ISM uses two service notes to provide important safety guidelines for suspension system operation. The service notes are defined as:

"NOTE": Provides additional instructions or procedures to complete tasks and make sure that the suspension functions properly.

CAUTION Indicates a hazardous situation or unsafe practice that, if not avoided, could result in equipment damage and serious injury.

Self-Steering Option

Steerable suspensions are designed to self-steer in the forward direction only.

The suspension must be raised off the ground or locked into a non-steering configuration during reverse travel to avoid damaging the suspension.

Use caution when maneuvering in reverse with the steering lock engaged. The driver should maintain slow maneuvering speeds and avoid extreme turns.

- 1. Ridewell Suspensions strongly recommends the use of automated systems that raise/lock the lift-axle during reverse travel.
- 2. For manual operations, Ridewell recommends the installation of a visual/audible indicator to assist the driver.

ACAUTION Failure to lift the suspension and-or engage the steering-lock during reverse travel can cause component damage and void the warranty.

Prior to Installation

Refer to the suspension model engineering drawing for detailed information on dimensional requirements; available ride height; and, the suspension system operating parameters.

Installations can vary. Procedures should be adapted for different vehicles, as needed.

- The Gross Axle Weight Rating (GAWR) is determined by the system component with the lowest load rating. Please consult with the tire, wheel, axle and brake manufacturers before installation to determine the GAWR.
- If vehicle chassis modifications are required, consult with the vehicle manufacturer to ensure that such changes are permitted.
- Welding or altering of suspension components is not permitted without the express written permission of Ridewell Suspensions.

Installer Responsibilities

The installer of the suspension has the sole responsibility for proper attachment of the suspension system to the vehicle chassis.

- The installer is responsible for locating the suspension system on the vehicle to provide the proper load distribution.
- The installer must verify that vehicle crossmembers are positioned to support the suspension at the installing location.
- The installer must verify there is sufficient clearance for proper functioning of the installed auxiliary suspension air springs; brake chambers; steering components; axle (including axle to driveline clearance); and, tires and wheels.
- It is the installer's responsibility to determine that axle spacing conforms to any applicable federal and local bridge laws.
- The installer must verify that air reservoir volume requirements are met after suspension installation. Consult the vehicle manufacturer or Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) 121 for more information.

Suspension Mounting

Refer to the suspension model engineering drawing for the suspension travel table; torque specifications; and, the spacing and clearance requirements for mounting the suspension.

The hanger locator flanges for 233 13K Truck Suspensions are factory installed to the ride height set by the air spring installed without a spacer (Figure 2).

The 233 13 Roll-Off Truck Suspension does not use hanger flanges. A 2" spacer is available for the hangers/air spring mounting plates (Figure 3).

Bolt-On Installation Procedure

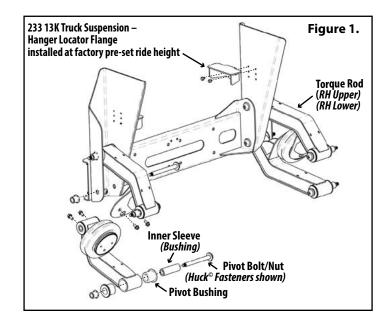
Grade-8 bolts, flanged locknuts or locknuts with hardened washers are supplied by the installer.

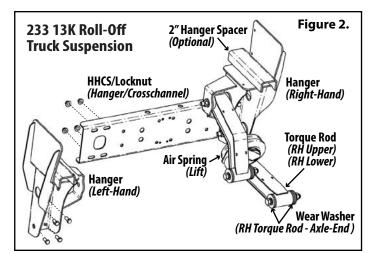
Loosen crosschannel and pivot nuts on the hanger end of the 233 13K Roll-Off Suspension before installation. Torque to specifications during final assembly.

- 1. Measure vehicle frame width and the hangerto-hanger inside dimensions of the suspension. Customer-supplied filler plates are required for the hangers and air spring mounting plates if the vehicle frame width is narrower than the suspension pre-set frame width.
- Place the suspension, with any hanger/air spring filler plates or hanger/air spring spacer, in the desired installation location.
 NOTE: A crossmember must be located on the frame within six inches of the leading or trailing edge of the hanger.
- Check the installation location for adequate clearance of suspension components. The top of the hangers and air spring mounting plates must be parallel to the chassis frame to maintain the proper caster angle.
- 4. The frame hangers and air spring mounting plates should be perpendicular to the chassis frame and in alignment with each other. Clamp the hangers, the mounting plates, and any required spacer and filler plates firmly in place.
- Refer to the engineering drawing for the recommended hanger/air spring mounting plate bolthole locations.

ACAUTION If the recommended bolt-hole locations are not available, locate and drill the bolt-holes as far apart as possible to provide the most support for the assembled suspension.

Check to make sure that wires, hoses or other components located within the frame rail are not affected by drilling.





- 6. Center-punch and drill six bolt-holes in each hanger. Bolt each hanger to the frame with 5/8-inch Grade 8 bolts and locknuts.
- 7. Center-punch and drill two bolt-holes in each air spring mounting bracket. Bolt each air spring bracket to the frame with two 5/8-inch Grade 8 bolts and locknuts.
- Install/connect the air control kit (ACK) to the suspension (Page 6). Check the air system after installation for leaks and proper operation of controls.
- 9. Perform final assembly and inspection and check the wheel toe setting (Page 5)

ACAUTION Failure to torque bolts/nuts of suspension components to specifications can result in failure of the suspension and void the warranty.

Final Assembly and Inspection

- 1. Verify that all suspension component bolts/nuts are torqued to specifications.
- 2. Install wheels and tires.

 ACAUTION When lowering an auxiliary axle on an unloaded vehicle, pressure to the load air springs must be reduced to below 10 psi. Failure to reduce the air pressure could cause the vehicle's drive axles to rise from the ground and the vehicle could roll in an unsafe manner.

 Do not lower the auxiliary axle while the vehicle is moving above 10 mph.
- 3. Check that tires are inflated to recommended pressure. Check wheel hubs for proper level of lubricant recommended by the manufacturer.
- 4. Lift the axle to the raised position. Check the air system tubing and connections for leaks.
- 5. Check that wheels can rotate freely and that brakes and slack adjusters are properly adjusted.
- Raise and lower the suspension assembly (wheels and tires installed) through the entire range of travel. Make sure that sufficient clearance for air springs, brake chambers and other components has been provided.
- 7. Check the vehicle's reverse travel options:
 - 7.1. Check steer-lock operation.
 - 7.2. Check automated system (if installed) to make sure that suspension raises/locks wheels during reverse travel.
- 8. Check wheel toe-in setting and adjust if necessary (between 1/32" and 3/32").

ACAUTION Failure to check reverse travel operations can result in component damage and void the suspension warranty.

Regulate load with air spring pressure

The load capacity of the auxiliary axle is adjusted by increasing or decreasing the pressure to the air springs. By applying more air, the lift axle takes on a greater percentage of the load's weight. The load capacity is decreased as the air pressure decreases.

Accurate readings of the load capacity can be obtained by parking a loaded vehicle over a calibrated scale and lowering the axle onto the scale. The air pressure to the air springs is manually adjusted up or down to obtain the axle load weight at various air pressures.

The suspension of exceed the rated load capacity of the suspension system or other components. Exceeding the capacity can cause component failure and void the warranty.

Wheel Toe Setting

Wheel toe is the relationship of the distance between the front of the tires and the distance between the rear of the tires on the same axle.

When the front distance is less than the rear distance, the wheels are in a "toe-in" (positive toe) condition.

Check Wheel Toe Setting

The correct setting for the RSS-233 suspension should be a positive toe-in between 1/32" and 3/32".

- 1. Deflate the air springs.
- 2. Lift the axle enough for tires to rotate freely. Support with jack stands to ensure axle is level.
- 3. Position tires to point straight ahead. Spin each tire. Use a piece of chalk to mark a line on the center tread all the way around each tire.
- 4. Use a tape measure to measure the distance between the center mark at the front and the rear of the tires.
- 5. Subtract the distance measured at the front of the tires from the distance measured at the rear of the tires to obtain the wheel toe setting (between 1/32" and 3/32").

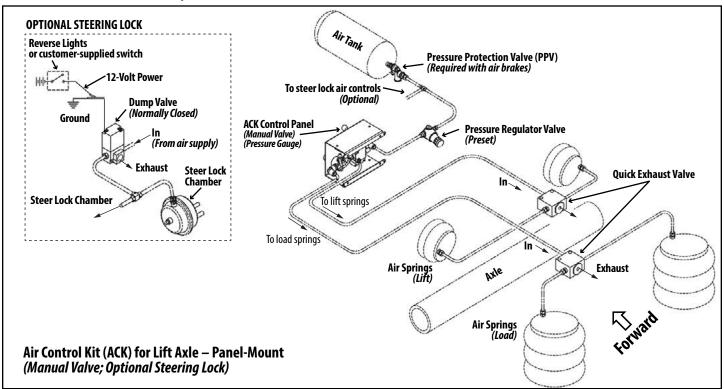
Adjust Wheel Toe

- Loosen the clamps on both ends of the tie rod.
 Twist the tie rod forward/backward to move the front of the tires towards or away from each other (increase/decrease toe-in setting).
- 2. Continue rotating the tie rod until the proper toein setting is achieved.
- 3. Torque tie-rod clamps to 60-80 ft-lb (81-108 N-m).

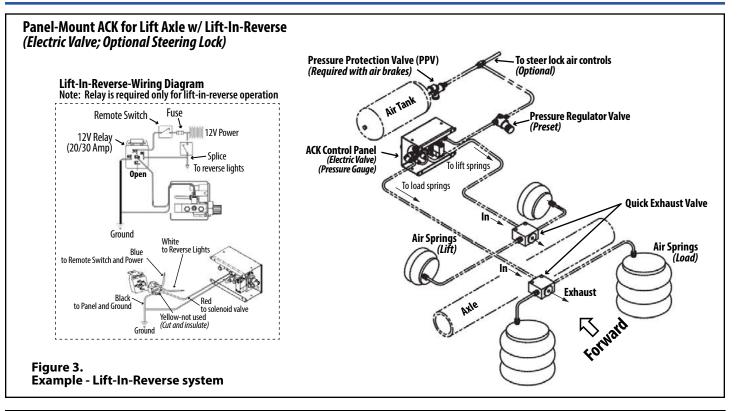
Air Control Kit components - Lift Axle

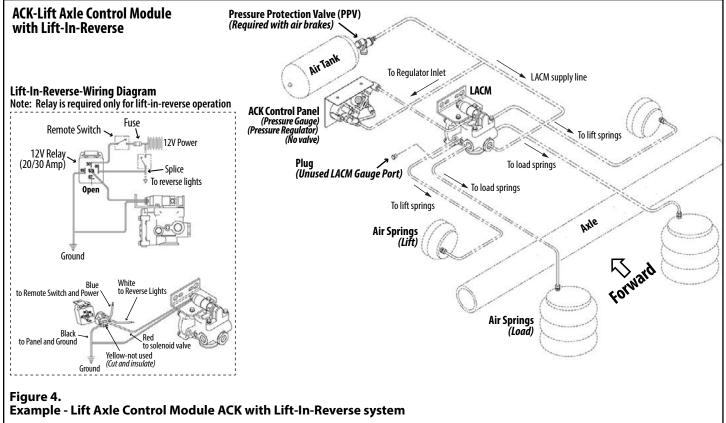
The air control kit (ACK) consists of a pressure regulator with a gauge connected to an air valve controlled by a manual knob or an electric switch. The operator uses the ACK to control the pressure to the air springs to support different loads.

ACAUTION The installer is responsible for making sure that air system requirements comply with the appropriate Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.



ACK Installation – Troubleshooting			
Problem	Possible Cause	Solution	
Air springs fill but do not exhaust.	Obstructed air line.Faulty controls wiring.Manual override pushed in.	Check for pinched/blocked lines.Check wiring with voltmeter and correct wiring/installation.Release manual override.	
Air system leaks down after a short period of time.	 Leak in air system beyond accepted standards. NOTE: Some valves will leak at an acceptable rate. 	 Pressurize system and spray soapy water solution onto the tubing, valves and fittings. Check for bubbles (leaks). 	
F		 Check that tubing cuts are straight and smooth. Recut and reassemble fitting joints, if necessary. 	
Auxiliary unit will not stay up	 Loose air fitting connection/Damaged air lines. 	 Check and retighten fittings. Repair or replace component, as necessary. 	
	 Air lines to lift and load air springs are reversed. 	 Check installation. Air line from regulator goes to (load) air springs. 	
	 Damaged or worn air springs. 	 Replace air spring if worn or damaged. 	
Auxiliary unit not achieving	— Air lines to lift and load air springs are reversed.	Check installation. Air line from regulator goes to (load) air springs.	
correct lift	 Lift air springs do not have proper air pressure. 	 Check for loose fittings or worn/damaged lines. Verify air tank pressure with gauge. 	
	 Interference with driveline/other chassis components. 	 Visually inspect auxiliary unit operation for proper clearance. Retighten any loose fasteners. 	
	 Air control system not installed correctly. 	 Check air control kit installation; refer to OEM installation procedures. 	





Recommended Service Intervals

Ridewell Suspensions recommends these minimum service intervals for standard duty, on-highway usage applications. More frequent intervals are recommended for heavier duty applications.

Daily/Pre-Trip Inspections
Visually inspect suspension structure for signs of damage or excessive wear.
Check for loose or missing bolts/nuts.Check for irregular movement in suspension components.
Check tires for proper inflation, damage or excessive wear.
Check wheel-ends for obvious signs of lubricant leakage. Check for missing components.
Make sure air controls are operating properly. Drain all moisture from air reservoirs.
First 6,000 miles of use
Torque all suspension bolts/nuts to specifications (Page 8/Engineering Drawing).
Every 12,000 miles of use
Lubricate Brake Cam and Slack Adjuster.
Inspect kingpins and upper/lower kingpin bushings for wear. Grease thrust bearings.
Inspect steering damper for damage/wear.
Inspect air springs for any damage/excessive wear. Torque air spring bolts/nuts to specifications (Page 8/Engineering Drawing).
Check air system for leaks.
First 50,000 miles of use
Torque all suspension bolts/nuts to specifications (Page 8/Engineering Drawing).
Check wheel ends for excessive play.
Check pivot bushings for wear.
Check operation of (reverse) steering lock (if equipped).
Verify operation of manual/automatic lift-in- reverse control (if equipped).
Inspect tie-rod and the tie-rod ends for excessive damage/wear. Lubricate tie-rod ends.

Annual/100,000 Miles Inspection

- __Inspect pivot connections for worn bushings/ wear washers. Replace if necessary. Torque all hardware to spec. (Pg 8/ENG Drawing).
- __ Check hanger and air spring mounting plate connections to frame.

Check lubrication level in wheel ends:

- ___Oil-Filled Wheel Ends: Refill/Replace lubricant as needed (See TMC RP 631-"100K/Annual Inspection").
- Check air system for leaks.
- Test air tank pressure protection valve (PPV) if equipped.
- Check brake chambers/brakes for damage and proper function.

ACAUTION Failure to exhaust all pressure from the air system before vehicle work can cause serious injury.

CAUTION Failure to torque bolts/nuts of suspension components to specifications can result in suspension failure and void the warranty.

Refer to these Technology & Maintenance Council (TMC) Recommended Procedures for additional information:

RP 609	Self-Adjusting/Manual Brake Adjuster Removal, Installation and Maintenance
RP 618	Wheel Bearing Adjustment Procedure
RP 619	Air System Inspection Procedure
RP 622	Wheel Seal and Bearing Maintenance
RP 631	Wheel End Lubrication Procedures
RP 643	Air Ride Suspension Maintenance Guidelines
RP 645	Tie-Rod End Inspection/Maintenance
RP 651	Steer Axle Maintenance Guidelines

Available Wheel-End Lubricants			
Lubricant Type	P/N	Item Description	
Mineral Oil	380008G	(CITGO) MP GearOil 631310001-80W-90	
Synthetic Oil	1980006	(SHELL) Synthetic API GI-5 75W-90 Oil	
Synthetic Hard-Pack Grease	1980007	(CITGO) Synthetic Grease	

pletely over the end of the tie-rod.

Replace entire tie-rod end if boot is damaged.

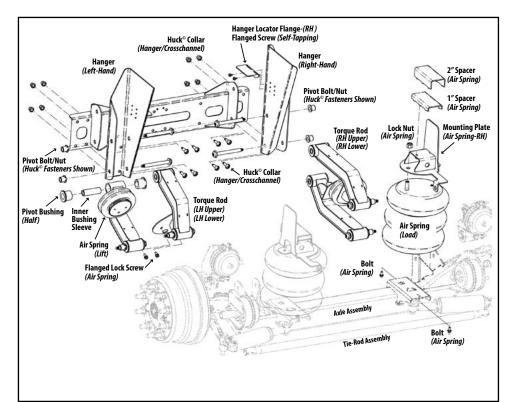


Figure 5.
233-13K Truck Components—
Single air spring mounting stud
Refer to the SteerLock (S) version of the engineering drawing for the component part number.

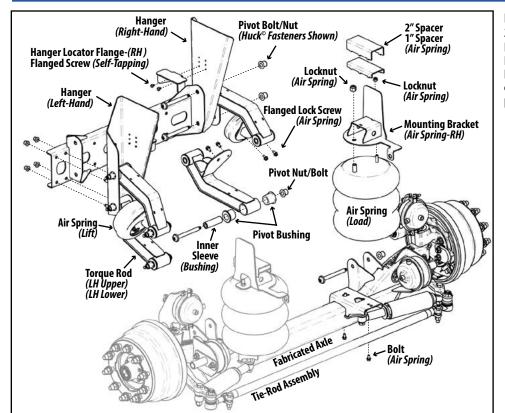


Figure 6.
233-13K Truck Components –
Dual air spring mounting stud
Drum brake
Refer to the SteerLock (S) version of the
engineering drawing for the component
part number.

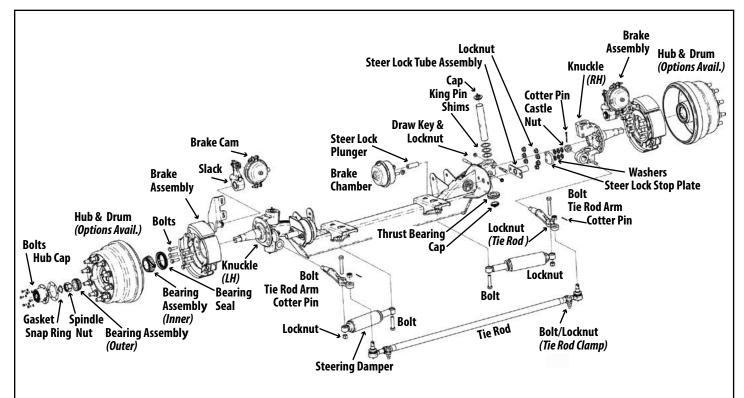


Figure 7.

Drum Brake Fabricated Axle Assembly with steering lock components.

Refer to the SteerLock (S) version of suspension model engineering drawing for component part number. Additional information on kingpin availability and replacement components is available in RW Technical Publication #9710133.

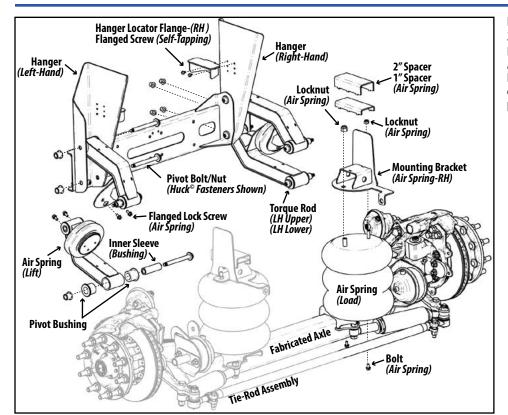
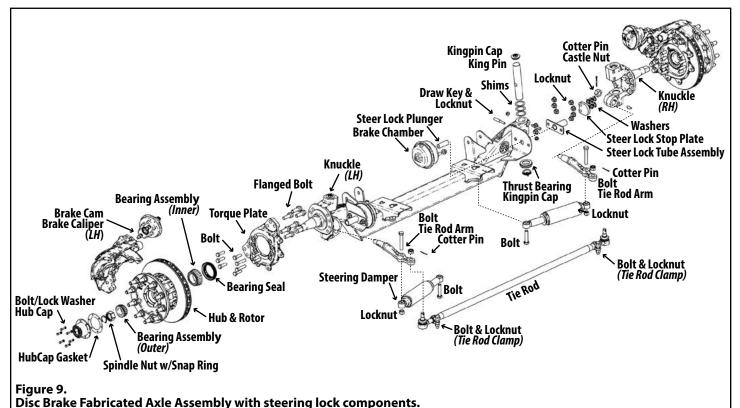


Figure 8.
233-13K Truck Components –
Dual air spring mounting stud
Air Disc Brake (ADB)
Refer to the SteerLock (S) version of the
engineering drawing for the component
part number.



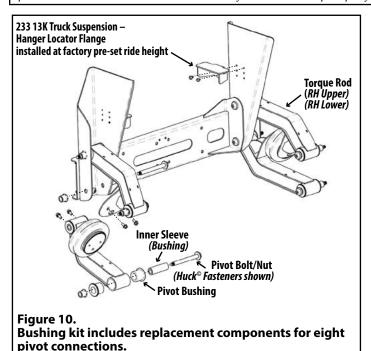
Refer to the SteerLock (S) version of suspension model engineering drawing for component part number. Additional informa-

tion on kingpin availability and replacement components is available in Technical Publication 9710133.

233 13K Truck — Bushing Replacement/Torque Specifications				
Part Number (Component)	Item Description	Size	Torque Values Size foot-pound Newton-meter	
6040134-Bushing Kit	Pivot Bolt/Nut (HHCS/Locknut)	3/4"-16NF	310 ft-lb	420 N-m
6040078-Bushing Kit	Pivot Bolt/Nut (Huck® Hardware)	3/4"	_	_
6040133-Bushing Kit	No Pivot Hardware	NA	310 ft-lb	420 N-m
Fasteners	Locknut - (Air Spring)	3/4"-16NF	50 ft-lb	68 N-m
	Locknut - (Air Spring)	1/2"-13NC	25 ft-lb	35 N-m
	Flanged Lock Screw - (Air Spring)	3/8"-16NC	25 ft-lb	35 N-m
	Locknut - (Steering Damper)	3/4"-10NC	160 ft-lb	217 N-m

Torque values reflect a lubricated thread condition (Nuts are pre-lubed). Do not overtorque.

<u>CAUTION</u> Suspension is shipped with minimal torque applied to fasteners. All fasteners must be re-torqued after first 6,000 miles of operation. Failure to install and maintain fasteners at torque specifications could result in suspension failure and void the warranty.



Vehicle Preparation

Park the vehicle on a level surface. Chock wheels to keep vehicle from moving.

Exhaust all the air from the air system. Disassemble suspension to reach pivot connections if necessary.

CAUTION Failure to chock vehicle wheels and exhaust the air system could allow vehicle/suspension movement that could result in serious injury.

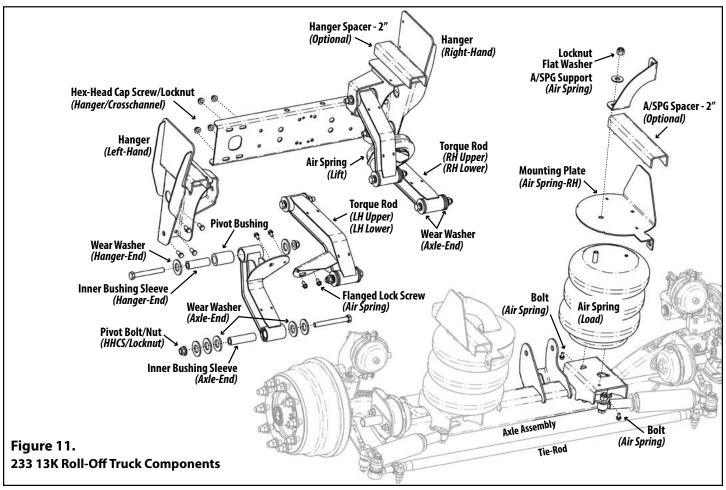
Bushing Replacement Procedure

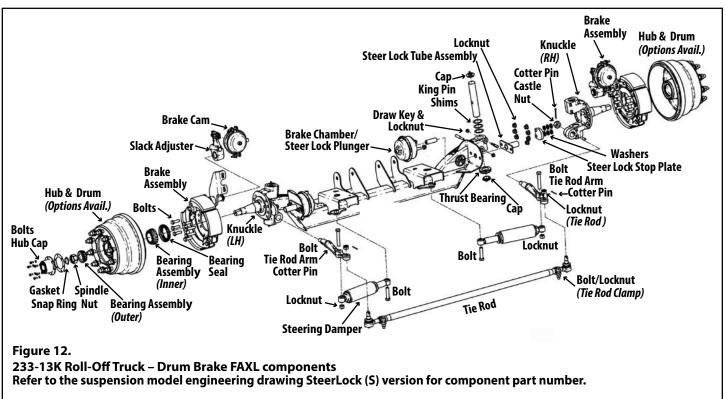
Replace eight pivot connections at same time (Fig 10).

- 1. Remove the pivot hardware by cutting/grinding away the Huck® Collar. Discard.
- 2. Remove bushing assembly from rod eye. Clean the rod eye of debris/corrosion.
- 3. Apply Energy Suspensions® Formula 5 Prelube to the bore (inside) of each bushing half. NOTE: Do not substitute Urethane bushing lubricant supplied with kit.
- 4. Press bushing halves into torque rod eye until bushing half is snug against the eye. NOTE: Mallet may be needed to install.
- 5. Press inner sleeve into the installed bushing opening. Check that inner sleeve is flush with both sides of installed bushing.

 NOTE: Mallet or bushing press needed to insert inner bushing sleeve.
- 6. Install pivot hardware. Torque to specifications (Chart/Engineering drawing).
- 7. Reassemble suspension, if necessary. Torque to specifications (Chart/Engineering Drawing).
- 8. Check that the wheel toe-in setting is between 1/32" and 3/32" and adjust, if necessary (Page 5).

CAUTION Failure to torque pivot hardware can result in suspension failure and void the warranty.





233 13K Roll-Off Truck Suspension — Bushing Replacement/Torque Specifications				
Part Number (Component)	Item Description	Size	Torque Values Size foot-pound Newton-meter	
6040218 - Bushing Kit	Pivot Bolt/Nut (HHCS/Locknut)	3/4"-16NF	310 ft-lb	420 N-m
6040217 - Bushing Kit	No Pivot Hardware	NA	310 ft-lb	420 N-m
Fasteners	Flanged Lock Screw - (Air Spring)	3/8"-16NC	25 ft-lb	35 N-m
	Locknut - (Air Spring)	3/4"-16NF	50 ft-lb	68 N-m
	Locknut - (Crosschannel)	1/2"-13NC	25 ft-lb	35 N-m
	Locknut - (Steering Damper)	3/4"-10NC	160 ft-lb	217 N-m

Torque values reflect a lubricated thread condition (Nuts are pre-lubed). Do not overtorque.

CAUTION Suspension is shipped with minimal torque applied to fasteners. All fasteners must be re-torqued after first 6,000 miles of operation. Failure to install and maintain fasteners at torque specifications could result in suspension failure and void the warranty.

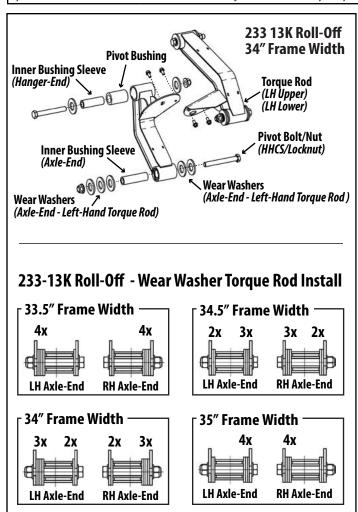


Figure 13.
Refer to the suspension model engineering drawing for the number of wear washers on the axle-end of the left-hand and right-hand torque rod. Number varies by the pre-set frame width.

Vehicle Preparation

Park the vehicle on a level surface. Chock wheels to keep vehicle from moving. Exhaust all air from the air system. Disassemble suspension, if necessary, to reach pivot connections.

ACAUTION Failure to properly chock wheels and exhaust the air system could allow vehicle movement that could result in serious injury.

Bushing Replacement Procedure

- 1. Count the number of wear washers on each side of the bushing on the Axle-End Torque Rod Assembly. The number of wear washers varies according to the pre-set frame width (Figure 13).
- Remove pivot hardware and discard. Inspect wear washers for wear/damage. Replace if necessary. NOTE: Pivot hardware/wear washers are included with bushing replacement kit.
- 3. Remove bushing and discard. Clean rod eye.
- 4. Apply Energy Suspensions® Formula 5 Prelube to the bore (inside) of new bushings.

 NOTE: Do not substitute special urethane bushing lubricant included with all bushing kits.
- 5. Install new bushing into the eye of the torque rod. NOTE: Mallet /press needed to install bushing.
- 6. Torque Rod Hanger-End (Bushing Sleeve 4.1")
 Press inner sleeve into installed bushing. Center
 the sleeve so that both ends extend slightly past
 the bushing sides. Assemble pivot connection
 with one wear washer on each side of the bushing. Sleeve must be flush with or extend slightly
 past the outside of wear washers on both ends.

continued on next page

Bushing Replacement Procedure – 13K Roll-Off Suspension

- 7. Torque Rod Axle-End (Bushing Sleeve 4.8")
 Press inner sleeve into the installed bushing.
 Position inner sleeve so that one end extends
 further past the bushing on appropriate side as
 determined by the frame width.
 Assemble pivot connection with appropriate
 number of wear washers on either end of the
 inner sleeve on the axle-end of the torque rod
 (Figure 13).
 - NOTE: Inner sleeve must be flush with or slightly past the outside of installed wear washers on both sides of torque rods. Adjust sleeve if necessary.
- 8. Torque pivot nut to spec (500 ft-lb 678 N-m).
- 9. Reassemble suspension, if necessary. Torque components to specifications.
- 10. Check wheel toe-in setting (between 1/32" and 3/32") and adjust, if necessary (Page 5).

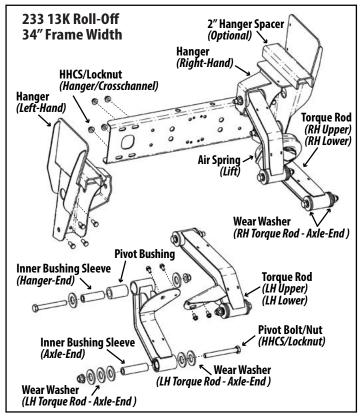


Figure 14.

13K Roll-Off Suspension bushing kit includes components to replace eight pivot connections.

WARRANTY

Terms and coverage in this warranty apply only to the United States and Canada.

Ridewell Suspensions warrants the suspension systems manufactured by it to be free of defects in material and workmanship. Warranty coverage applies only to suspensions that have been properly installed, maintained and operated within the rated capacity and recommended application of the suspension. The responsibility for warranty coverage is limited to the repair/replacement of suspension parts. The liability for coverage of purchased components is limited to the original warranty coverage extended by the manufacturer of the purchased part.

All work under warranty must have prior written approval from the Ridewell warranty department. Ridewell has the sole discretion and authority to approve or deny a claim and authorize the repair or replacement of suspension parts. All parts must be held until the warranty claim is closed.

Parts that need to be returned for warranty evaluation will be issued a Returned Materials Authorization (RMA). Parts must be returned to Ridewell with the transportation charges prepaid. The transportation charges will be reimbursed if the warranty claim is approved.

This non-transferable warranty is in lieu of all other expressed or implied warranties or representations, including any implied warranties of merchantability or fitness or any obligations on the part of Ridewell. Ridewell will not be liable for any business interruptions, loss of profits, personal injury, any costs of travel delays or for any other special, indirect, incidental or consequential losses, costs or damages.

Contact the Ridewell Warranty Dept. at 417.833.4565 - Ext. 135, for complete warranty information.