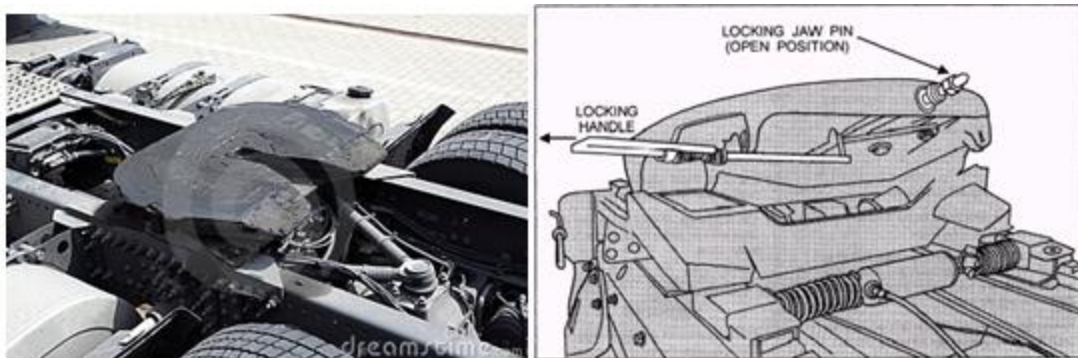




Coupling and Uncoupling - Tractors to Trailers

Coupling and uncoupling tractors and trailers can present serious hazards if precautions are not taken. Failure to follow proper procedures can cause tractor runaway or trailer rollaway situations that result in costly equipment damage or serious, even fatal injuries.



Caution!!

Typical Hazards in coupling or uncoupling a rig include:

1. When the tractor is not secured, brake lines can be damaged.
2. When trailer brakes are not functioning, the trailer can fall and be damaged.
3. When the ground is not firm for coupling, the trailer can fall and be damaged.
4. When trailer wheels are not **chocked**, the trailer may roll or be pushed into an obstruction and be damaged.
5. When climbing onto the tractor during coupling, the driver could fall due to slippery surfaces.
6. If the driver works under an unsupported trailer (no jackstand or tractor under the trailer's nose) he or she could be injured if the landing gear collapses and the trailer drops to the ground.

Remember: "No task is so important that it be done at the risk of safety."