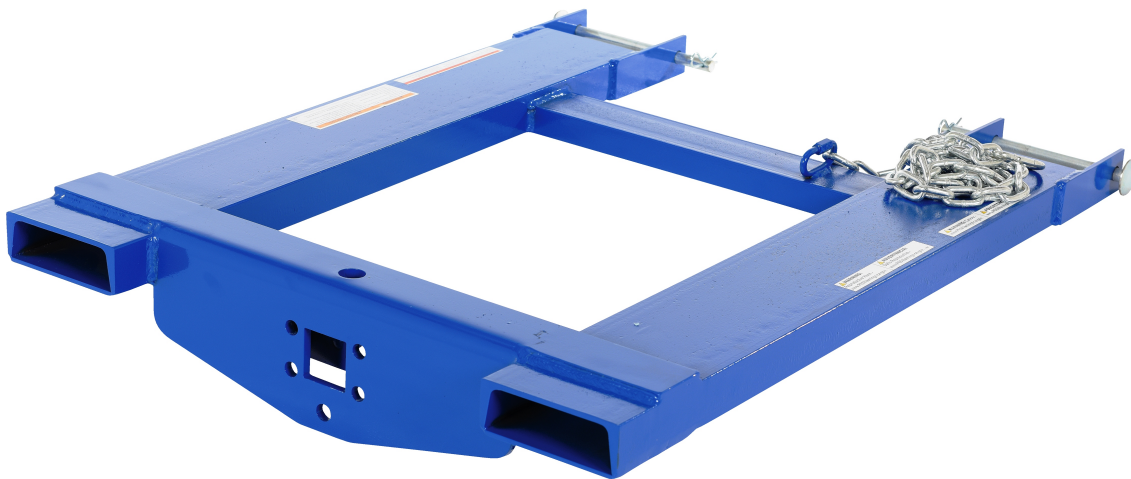




HOOK-BASE Instruction Manual



Receiving instructions:

After delivery, remove the packaging from the product. Inspect the product closely to determine whether it sustained damage during transport. If damage is discovered, record a complete description of it on the bill of lading. If the product is undamaged, discard the packaging.

NOTE: The end-user is solely responsible for confirming that product design, use, and maintenance comply with laws, regulations, codes, and mandatory standards applied where the product is used.

Replacement Parts and Technical Assistance:

For answers to questions not addressed in these instructions and to order replacement parts, labels, and accessories, call our Technical Service and Parts Department at (260) 665-7586. The department can also be contacted online at http://www.vestilmfg.com/parts_info.htm.

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Signal Words:

This manual classifies personal injury risks and situations that could lead to property damage with SIGNAL WORDS. A safety message appears with a signal word that describes an improper/dangerous use of the product. The signal word indicates the seriousness of the injury that could result from the described use.



WARNING Identifies a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, **COULD** result in **DEATH** or **SERIOUS INJURY**.



NOTICE Identifies practices likely to result in product/property damage, such as operation that might damage the product.

Each person who assembles, installs, uses, or maintains this product should read the entire manual in advance and fully understand the directions. If after reading the manual you do not understand an instruction, ask your supervisor or employer for clarification, because failure to adhere to the directions in this manual might result in serious personal injury.

Hazards of Improper Use:

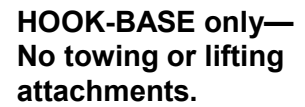
Vestil strives to identify foreseeable hazards associated with the use of its products. However, no manual can address every conceivable risk. The most effective way to avoid injury from misusing this product is to exercise sound judgment whenever the HOOK-BASE is in use.



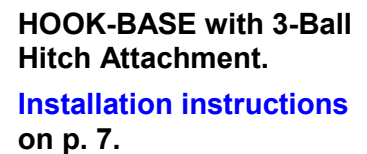
WARNING Improper or careless use of this product might result in serious personal injuries.

- **Read and understand the entire manual before assembling, installing, using or servicing the product.** Read the manual to refresh your understanding of proper use and maintenance procedures whenever necessary.
- DO NOT exceed the 4,000 lb. (1,818.2kg) capacity/maximum rated load. See Label 287 on product; also see [Labeling Diagram](#) on p. 9.
- Inspect the product before each use following the instructions in [Inspections & Maintenance](#) on p. 9. DO NOT use the HOOK-BASE unless it is in normal condition.
- Before attaching the HOOK-BASE to the coupler of a piece of towable equipment, inspect the coupler and latch. Confirm that all parts are in good condition. DO NOT use the HOOK-BASE to tow equipment UNLESS the coupler seats onto the correct ball hitch and latches properly. **ONLY USE THE HOOK-BASE TO PUSH TOWED EQUIPMENT. DO NOT PULL EQUIPMENT WITH THIS DEVICE!**
- Whenever using the load hook, always test the soundness of the connection between the hook and the suspended load before transporting the load. Lift the load a few inches above the ground. Load swing should be minimal and the load should not shift. If the load is not stable while suspended, return it to the ground and adjust the load rigging.
- Minimize load swing. Position the lifting hook directly above the center of the top of the load; then attach the load to the hook with appropriate rigging and slowly raise the load.
- DO NOT remove or obscure any label.
- Verify the placement and legibility of all labels shown in the [Labeling Diagram](#) on p. 9. DO NOT use this device UNLESS all product labels are easily readable and undamaged.
- DO NOT ride, or sit, on the HOOK-BASE.
- DO NOT use the HOOK-BASE to tow anything while people are onboard.
- DO NOT use the lifting hook to lift any apparatus that supports people, such as a work platform.
- DO NOT leave towed equipment attached to the HOOK-BASE. Properly immobilize the equipment (e.g. with wheel chocks) and disengage it from the towing attachment when towing is finished.
- DO NOT leave suspended loads unattended. Always disengage any load suspended from the lifting hook before leaving it unattended.
- DO NOT modify the HOOK-BASE without written approval from Vestil. **Unauthorized modifications automatically void the [Limited Warranty](#) (p. 10) and might make the HOOK-BASE unsafe to use.**
- ONLY raise the forks as high as necessary to put the trailer in a horizontal (level) position for towing.
- If using the hoist hook attachment to lift loads, only raise the forks as high as necessary to raise the load off of the ground and to avoid contact with objects in the path of travel.
- DO NOT use the HOOK-BASE to transport *anything* but trailers or equipment designed to be towed. The towing attachment, e.g. ball or pintle hook, should match the towing adapter on the trailer or other towable equipment.
- Use this HOOK-BASE consistently with the fork truck training you received.
- DO NOT use the unit UNLESS all product labels are easily readable and undamaged. See [Labeling Diagram](#) on p. 9.

Dimensions and other specifications of each standard model HOOK-BASE appear in the diagrams and tables below and on pages 4 & 5.

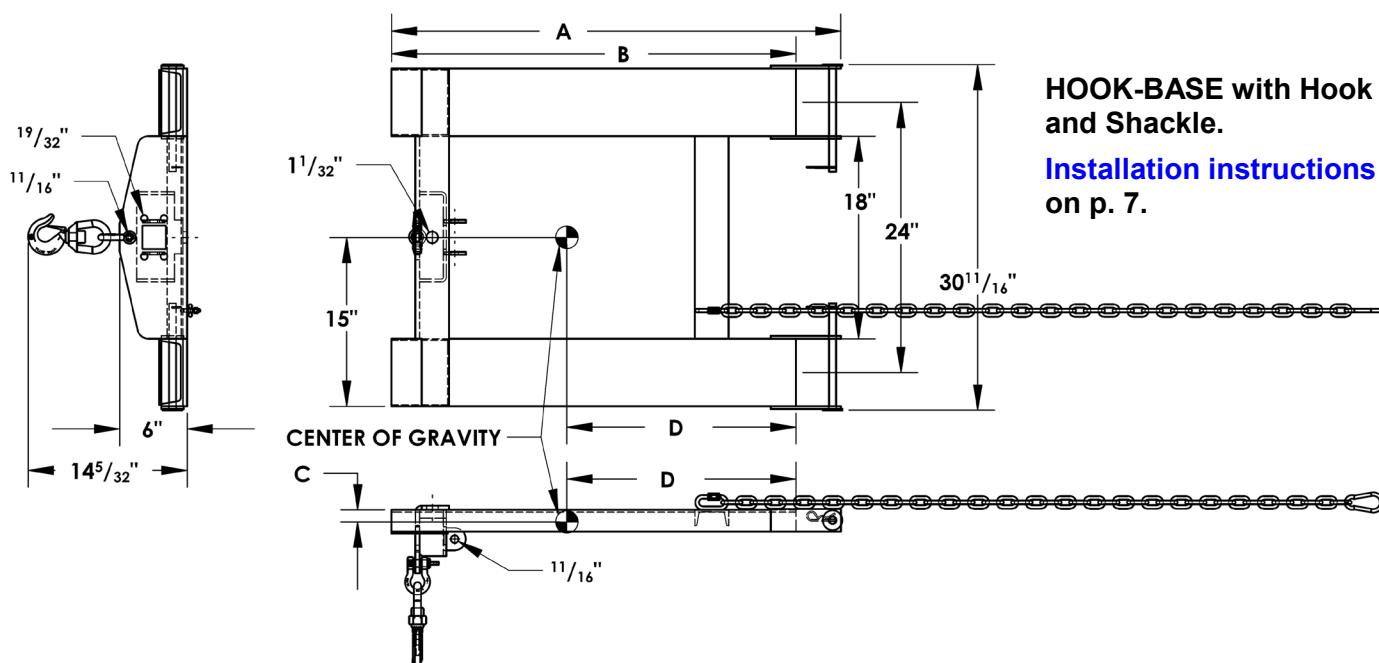


Model	A	B	C	D	E	Capacity	Net Weight
HOOK-BASE-32	40" 101.6cm	36" 91.4cm	32 ³ / ₈ " 82.2cm	0.77" 2.0cm	19.91" 50.6cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	88 lb. (40kg)
HOOK-BASE-38	46" 116.8cm	42" 106.7cm	38 ³ / ₈ " 97.5cm	0.74" 1.9cm	23.08" 58.6cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	96 lb. (43.6 kg)
HOOK-BASE-44	52" 132.1cm	48" 121.9cm	44 ³ / ₈ " 112.7cm	0.72" 1.8cm	26.23" 66.6cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	105 lb. (47.7 kg)

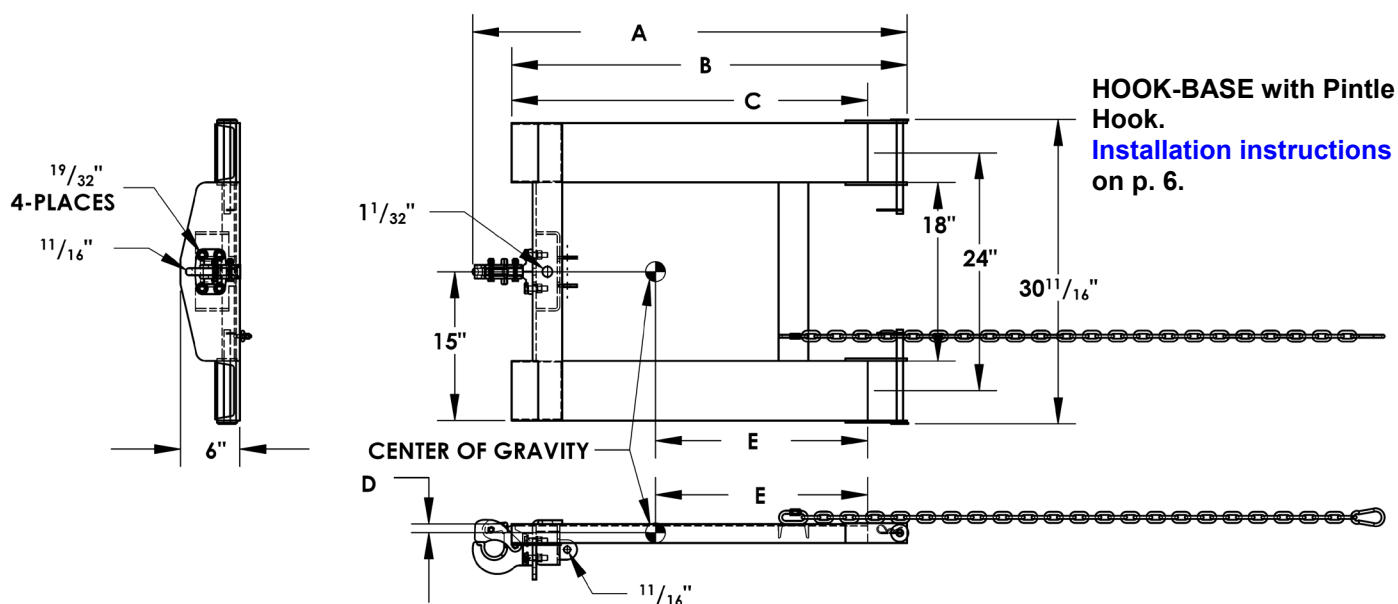


Model	A	B	C	D	E	F	Capacity	Net Weight
HOOK-BASE-32	42 ¹⁹ / ₃₂ " 108.2cm	40" 101.6cm	36" 91.4cm	37 ³ / ₁₆ " 94.5cm	0.90" 2.3cm	21.52" 54.0cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	98 lb. (44.5 kg)
HOOK-BASE-38	48 ¹⁹ / ₃₂ " 123.4cm	46" 116.8cm	42" 106.7cm	43 ⁷ / ₁₆ " 109.7cm	0.87" 2.2cm	24.85" 63.1cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	106 lb. (48.2 kg)
HOOK-BASE-44	54 ¹⁹ / ₃₂ " 138.7cm	52" 132.1cm	48" 121.9cm	49 ³ / ₁₆ " 124.9cm	0.86" 2.2cm	28.12" 71.4cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	114 lb. (51.8 kg)

Specifications (continued):

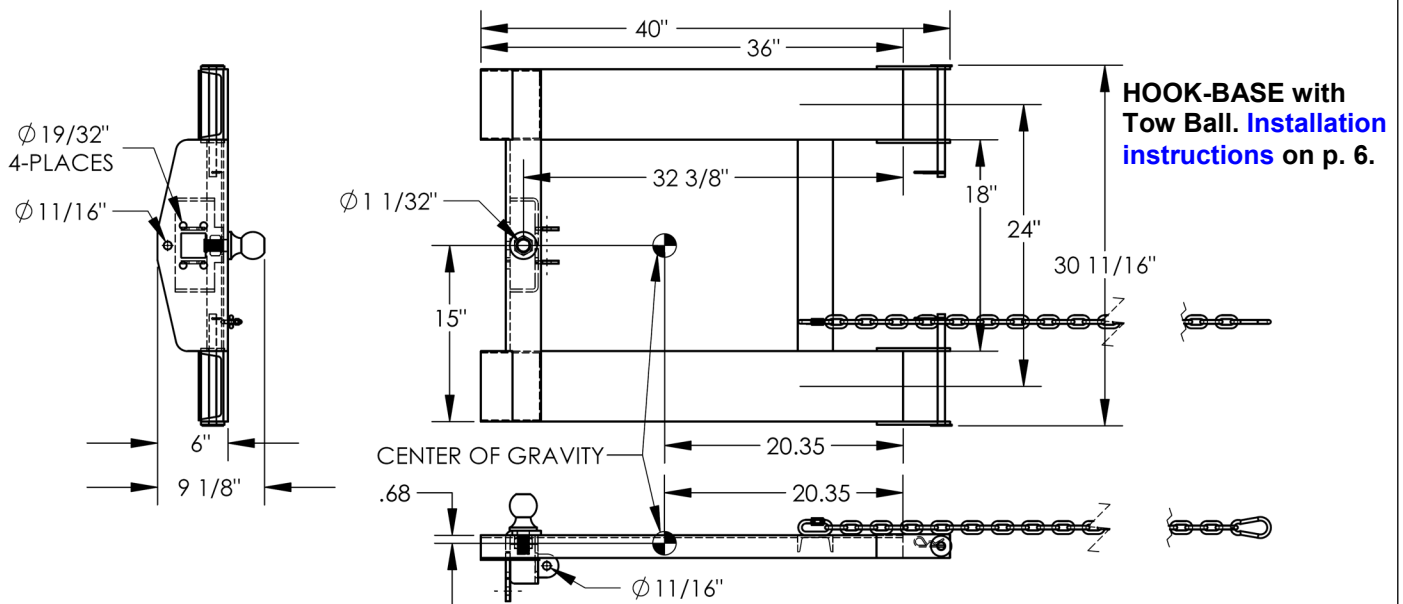


Model	A	B	C	D	Capacity	Net Weight
HOOK-BASE-32	40" 101.6cm	36" 91.4cm	1.07" 2.7cm	20.40" 51.8cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	91 lb. (41.4kg)
HOOK-BASE-38	46" 116.8cm	42" 106.7cm	1.02" 2.6cm	23.62" 60.0cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	99 lb. (45 kg)
HOOK-BASE-44	52" 132.1cm	48" 121.9cm	0.99" 2.5cm	26.81" 668.1cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	108 lb. (49.1 kg)



Model	A	B	C	D	E	Capacity	Net Weight
HOOK-BASE-32	43 ¹⁵ / ₁₆ " 111.6cm	40" 101.6cm	36" 91.4cm	0.90" 2.3cm	21.44" 54.5cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	97 lb. (44.1 kg)
HOOK-BASE-38	49 ¹⁵ / ₁₆ " 126.8cm	46" 116.8cm	42" 106.7cm	0.87" 2.2cm	24.71" 62.8cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	105 lb. (47.7 kg)
HOOK-BASE-44	55 ¹⁵ / ₁₆ " 142.1cm	52" 132.1cm	48" 121.9cm	0.84" 2.1cm	27.96" 71.0cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	113 lb. (51.4 kg)

Specifications (continued):



Model	A	B	C	D	E	Capacity	Net Weight
HOOK-BASE-32	40" 101.6cm	36" 91.4cm	32 ³ / ₈ " 82.2cm	0.68" 1.7cm	21.44" 54.5cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	91 lb. (41.4 kg)
HOOK-BASE-38	46" 116.8cm	42" 106.7cm	38 ³ / ₈ " 97.5cm	0.67" 1.7cm	23.58" 59.9cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	99.1 lb. (45.0 kg)
HOOK-BASE-44	52" 132.1cm	48" 121.9cm	44 ³ / ₈ " 112.7cm	0.66" 1.7cm	26.77" 68.0cm	4,000 lb. 1,818.2kg	108 lb. (49.1 kg)

Hitch Attachments:

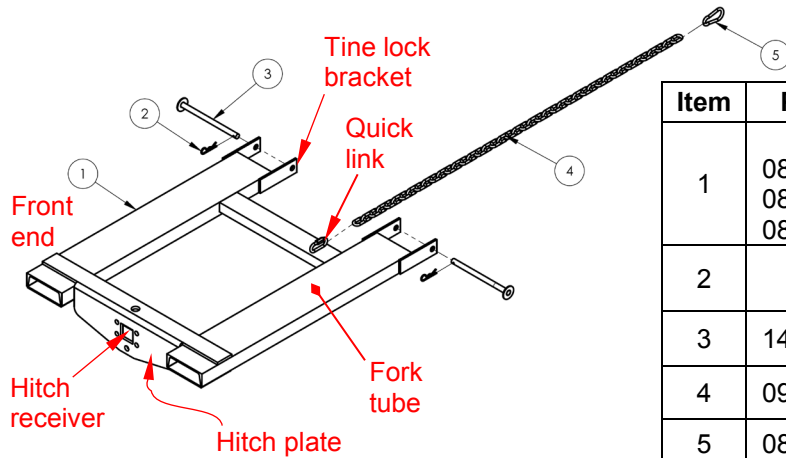
Ball Hitches	Ball Diameter	Shank Diameter	Capacity	Net Weight
BALL-178	1 ⁷ / ₈ " (4.8cm)	1" (2.5cm)	2,000 lb. (909.1kg)	3 lb. (1.4kg)
BALL-200	2" (5.1cm)	1" (2.5cm)	5,000 lb. (2272.7kg)	3 lb. (1.4kg)
BALL-2516	2 ⁵ / ₁₆ " (5.9cm)	1" (2.5cm)	5,000 lb. (2272.7kg)	4 lb. (1.8kg)
HITCH-3B	1 ⁷ / ₈ ", 2", & 2 ⁵ / ₁₆ " (4.8cm; 5.1cm; 5.9cm)	N/A (hitches permanently mounted to 2"x2"x12" square tube)	2,000 lb. (909.1kg) 3,500 lb. (1590.9kg) 7,500 lb. (3409.1kg)	12 lb. (5.5kg)

Model	Jaw Opening	Vertical Capacity	Uniform Trailer Capacity	Net Weight
PINTLE Use with 3" (inner diameter) pintle ring	1¾" (~4½ cm)	2,000 lb. (909.1kg)	10,000 lb. (4545.5kg)	12 lb. (4.7kg)

Record of Normal Condition:

When the unit is first unpacked, make a written record of its condition. Include observations about all features, i.e. pins, pin clips, welds, the frame, safety chain, quick link, and snap hook. Thoroughly photograph the unit and all labels applied to it. Add the photographs to the record. Describe where each label is located. This record establishes “normal condition”. During future inspections, compare your observations to the record to determine if the unit is in normal condition. See [Inspections & Maintenance](#) on p. 9.

Exploded View and Bill of Materials:



Item	Part no.	Description	Qty.
1	08-514-140	Frame weldment:	1
	08-514-139	HOOK-BASE-32	1
	08-514-102	HOOK-BASE-38	1
		HOOK-BASE-42	1
2	45286	#11 hitch pin clip, $\frac{1}{8}$ " x $2\frac{5}{8}$ "	2
3	14-612-001	Pin, lock, weldment	2
4	09-145-018	$\frac{5}{16}$ " chain 56" long	1
5	08-145-041	Snap hook, $\frac{5}{16}$ "	1

Using the HOOK-BASE: Refer to the [Exploded View](#) (above) for locations of features described.

WARNING

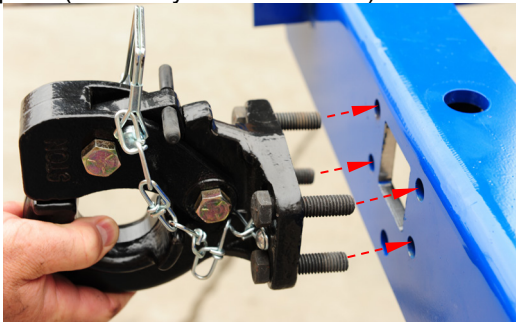
USING THIS (LIFT TRUCK) FRONT END ATTACHMENT AFFECTS THE CENTER OF GRAVITY OF YOUR LIFT TRUCK. BEFORE USING THIS DEVICE, US FEDERAL REGULATION [29 CFR 1910.178](#) REQUIRES YOU TO CONTACT THE MANUFACTURER OF YOUR LIFT TRUCK TO REQUEST:

- WRITTEN APPROVAL (29 CFR 1910.178(a)(4); AND
- MARKINGS FOR THE LIFT TRUCK THAT IDENTIFY THE ATTACHMENT AND GIVE THE APPROXIMATE WEIGHT OF THE TRUCK AND ATTACHMENT AT MAXIMUM ELEVATION WITH A Laterally-Centered Load (29 CFR 1910.178(a)(5)). **DO NOT USE THIS DEVICE UNTIL YOUR LIFT TRUCK IS MARKED WITH CORRECTED CAPACITY TAGS. ONLY USE THIS DEVICE WITH LIFT TRUCKS THAT HAVE BEEN MARKED WITH CORRECTED CAPACITY TAGS.**

Step 1: Select the appropriate towing attachment and install it.

PINTLE HOOK

A) Insert the bolts through the four bolt holes in the hitch plate (shown by dashed arrows).



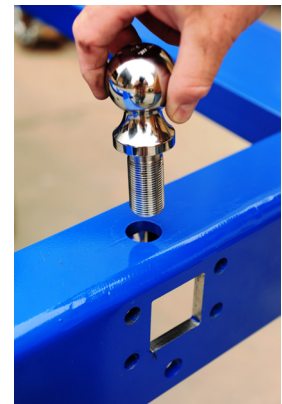
B) Fasten the pintle hook to the HOOK-BASE: first apply a lock washer to each bolt; then apply a hex nut. Fully tighten the nuts to secure the connections.



ONLY USE THE HOOK-BASE TO PUSH TOWED EQUIPMENT. DO NOT PULL EQUIPMENT WITH THIS DEVICE!

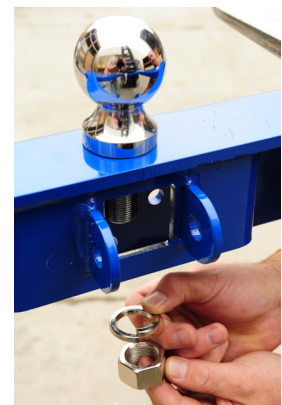
TOW BALL

A) Insert the tow ball through the opening in the top of the hitch plate.



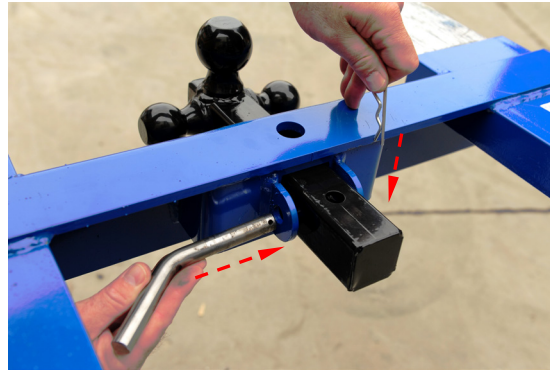
B) Fasten the tow ball to the HOOK-BASE: first apply a lock washer to each bolt; then apply a hex nut. Fully tighten the nuts to secure the connections.

ONLY USE THE HOOK-BASE TO PUSH TOWED EQUIPMENT. DO NOT PULL EQUIPMENT WITH THIS DEVICE!



3-BALL HITCH (model HITCH-3B)

Select the appropriate tow ball and insert the hitch through the (square) hitch receiver (see [Exploded View](#) on p. 6) in the hitch plate with the selected tow ball facing upwards. Align the pin holes in the hitch with the pin holes in the hitch brackets. Insert the lock pin through the pin holes and secure it in place with a hitch pin.

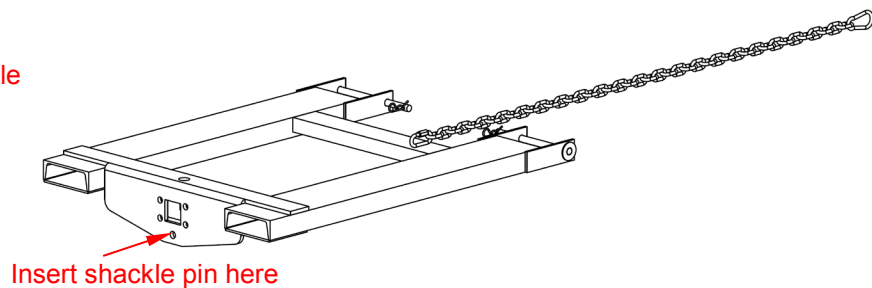
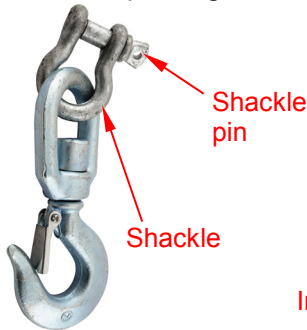


ONLY PUSH TOWED EQUIPMENT with the HOOK-BASE. DO NOT PULL EQUIPMENT WITH THIS DEVICE!

HOOK AND SHACKLE (models HOOK-S-4 and HOOK-R-4)

Unscrew the shackle pin. Align the shackle with the bottom hole of the hitch plate and reattach the shackle pin.

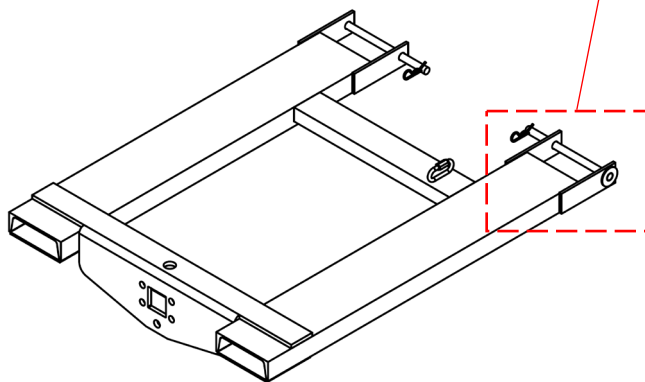
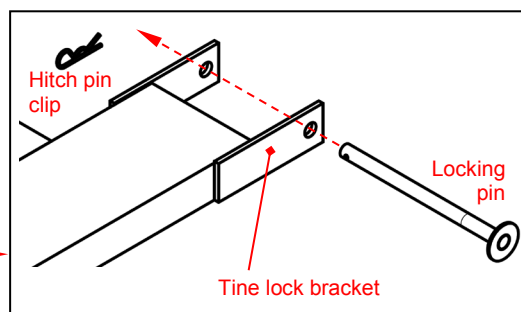
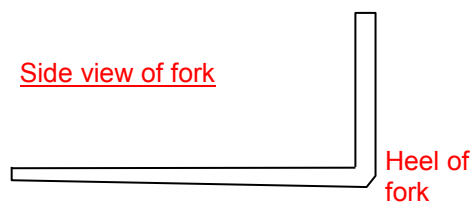
NOTE:
Swivel
hook
model
HOOK-
S-4
shown.



Step 2: Remove the locking pins from the tine lock brackets and adjust the positions of the forks of your lift truck to match the locations of the fork tubes. Slowly drive the truck forward until the forks extend all the way through the fork pockets and the heels of the forks contact the ends of the fork tubes (the tine lock brackets should project behind the heels of the forks). Reinstall the locking pins; then reinstall the hitch pin clips.

NOTE: The forks of your lift truck should be **AT LEAST** as long as the fork tubes.

Side view of fork



Secure locking pins with hitch pins

Step 3: Fasten the safety chain to the carriage of the forklift **WITH NO SLACK**. Loop the safety chain around the carriage. Attach the snap hook at the end of the chain to the quick link (welded to the frame). Wrap the chain around the carriage as many times as is necessary to remove slack from the chain. The chain must not be able to disconnect from the carriage without deliberate effort.



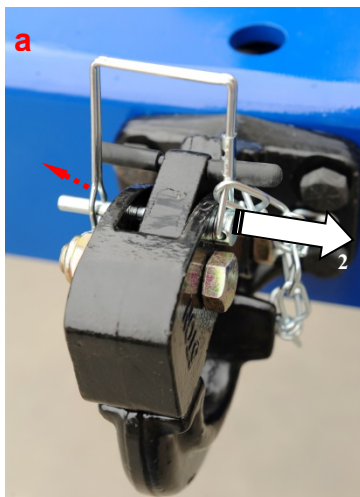
WARNING

The chain is an essential safety-enhancing feature. This photograph shows the safety chain wrapped around the forklift carriage and proper attachment of the snap hook to the quick link. In order to clearly show the connections, slack is left in the chain. However, there must be no slack in the chain whenever the HOOK-BASE is used. Wrap the chain around the carriage to remove all **slack**. Otherwise, the chain will not prevent the unit from sliding on the forks.

Step 4: Connect the trailer or other item to be towed to the towing attachment. Raise the forks sufficiently to put the tongue of the trailer in a horizontal position.

To connect a trailer to the pintle hook attachment:

- a) Unlock the snapper pin and remove it from the upper jaw of the pintle hook;
- b) Open the jaws by pressing the upper jaw upwards, while also pressing the opening lever forward. The jaw will maintain the open position when the lever is pressed all the way forward.



Unlock snapper pin and then pull out the pin



Press upwards on upper jaw and press opening lever forward



Pintle jaws open

Inspections & Maintenance:

NOTICE

Proper use, maintenance, and storage are essential for this product to function properly.

- Inspect the unit as described and at least as frequently as recommended.
- Use the product in accordance with the instructions in this manual.
- Store the HOOK-BASE and all towing and lifting attachments in a dry location.

Before each use, inspect the HOOK-BASE to confirm that it is in normal condition.

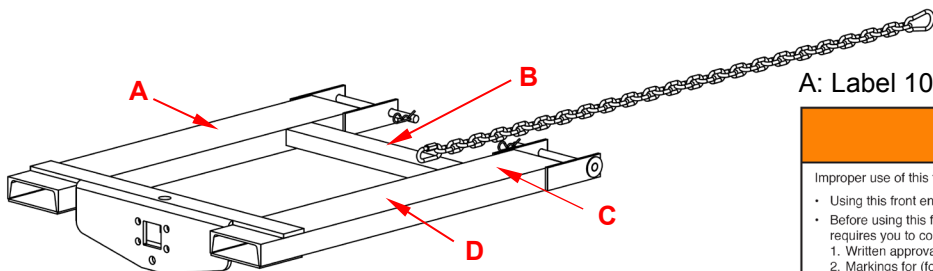
1. Safety chain and snap hook (attached to the free end of the safety chain): confirm that the spring latch (of the hook) automatically closes firmly. Do not continue to use the HOOK-BASE if the tine locks, snap hook, chain, or quick link are damaged or worn severely enough to prevent normal function.
2. Labeling: all labels should be readable and located as shown in the [Labeling Diagram](#) (below). If a label is unreadable or missing, contact Vestil to order a replacement.

At least 1 time per month, inspect:

1. Fasteners (hardware):
 - Bolts, nuts, washers, pins, cotter pins;
 - Chain and snap hook.
2. Fork pockets: confirm that each pocket is structurally sound and free of significant rust. Do not use the HOOK-BASE if the fork pockets are structurally compromised.
3. Welds: confirm that all welds are intact. Only use this product if all welds are in normal, undamaged condition.
4. Towing attachments, fork pockets, and hitch plate: confirm normal condition, i.e. no structural deformation, warps, or cracks, etc.
5. Overall condition: the structure should be clean, square and rigid, and free of rust and corrosion. Remove dirt and debris. Apply touchup paint to area where the finish is damaged. Do not use the HOOK-BASE if the supporting frame is structurally unsound.

Labeling Diagram:

Each unit should be labeled as shown in the diagram. However, label content and locations are subject to change so your product might not be labeled exactly as shown. Compare the diagram below to your [Record of Normal Condition](#). If there are any differences between actual labeling and this diagram, adapt the diagram to reflect actual labeling. Replace all labels that are damaged, missing, or not easily readable (e.g. faded). To order replacement labels or to inquire whether your unit is properly labeled, contact the technical service and parts department online at http://www.vestilmfg.com/parts_info.htm or by calling (260) 665-7586 and asking for the Parts Department.



A: Label 1049

⚠ WARNING	
Improper use of this fork attachment might result in death or serious injury.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using this front end attachment affects lift truck center of gravity. • Before using this fork attachment, US Federal regulation 29 CFR 1910.178 requires you to contact the manufacturer of your lift truck and request: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Written approval [29 CFR 1910.178(a)(4)] 2. Markings for (fork) lift truck that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify the attachment; - Give approximate weight of truck and attachment at maximum elevation with laterally-centered load. [29 CFR 1910.178(a)(5)]. • DO NOT use UNTIL lift truck is marked with corrected capacity tags. 	
1049 rev 1118	

B: Label 287 (covered with label 815)

MODEL/MODÉLO/MODELE _____	
STATIC CAPACITY (evenly distributed) _____	lbs.
LA CAPACIDAD CONSTANTE (distribuida uniformemente) _____	kgs.
CAPACITÉ STATIQUE (distribuée régulièrement) _____	kgs.
SERIAL/SERIE/SÉRIE _____	
287 REV 0812	

C: Label 218

⚠ WARNING	⚠ ADVERTENCIAS
Improper use might result in death or serious personal injury. Attach device to fork carriage with safety chain/strap.	El uso impropio puede resultar en muerte o heridas personales. Atar aparato al mástil del montacargas con cadenas/correas.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive lift truck forward until forks contact ends of fork pockets. • Chain/straps must not be able to disconnect (slide free) from carriage. • Safety chain/strap must be taut. Connect chain/strap to carriage via shortest line. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maneje el montacargas para adelante hasta que las cuñas hagan contacto con la orilla del bolsillo de las cuñas. • La cadenas y correas no deben de deslizarse (soltarse) del mástil del montacargas. • La cadena/correa de seguridad debe de estar apretado. Asegure la cadena/correa al mástil via la ruta mas corta.
218 rev 0910	

D: Label 658

⚠ WARNING	⚠ ADVERTENCIA	⚠ AVERTISSEMENT
Do not operate or move with unstable loads DO NOT LOAD beyond rated capacity DISTRIBUTE LOAD EVENLY DO NOT sit or ride	No use a mueva con cargas inestables No cargue mas de la capacidad tasada DISTRIBUYA LA CARGA A NIVEL NO SE SIENTE o vaya en el carro	Ne pas utiliser avec une charge instable NE PAS CHARGER au-delà du débit nominale DISTRIBUER la charge régulièrement NE PAS VOUS ASSEoir OU VOUS PROMENER sur le chariot
658 rev 0808		

LIMITED WARRANTY

Vestil Manufacturing Corporation ("Vestil") warrants this product to be free of defects in material and workmanship during the warranty period. Our warranty obligation is to provide a replacement for a defective, original part covered by the warranty after we receive a proper request from the Warrantee (you) for warranty service.

Who may request service?

Only a warrantee may request service. You are a warrantee if you purchased the product from Vestil or from an authorized distributor AND Vestil has been fully paid.

Definition of "original part"?

An original part is a part used to make the product as shipped to the Warrantee.

What is a "proper request"?

A request for warranty service is proper if Vestil receives: 1) a photocopy of the Customer Invoice that displays the shipping date; AND 2) a written request for warranty service including your name and phone number. Send requests by one of the following methods:

US Mail
Vestil Manufacturing Corporation
2999 North Wayne Street, PO Box 507
Angola, IN 46703

Fax
(260) 665-1339
Phone
(260) 665-7586

Email
info@vestil.com
Enter "Warranty service request"
in subject field.

In the written request, list the parts believed to be defective and include the address where replacements should be delivered. After Vestil receives your request for warranty service, an authorized representative will contact you to determine whether your claim is covered by the warranty. Before providing warranty service, Vestil will require you to send the entire product, or just the defective part (or parts), to its facility in Angola, IN.

What is covered under the warranty?

The warranty covers defects in the following original, dynamic parts: motors, hydraulic pumps, motor controllers, and cylinders. It also covers defects in original parts that wear under normal usage conditions ("wearing parts"), such as bearings, hoses, wheels, seals, brushes, and batteries.

How long is the warranty period?

The warranty period for original dynamic components is 90 days. For wearing parts, the warranty period is 90 days. Both warranty periods begin on the date Vestil ships the product to the Warrantee. If the product was purchased from an authorized distributor, the periods begin when the distributor ships the product. Vestil may, at its sole discretion, extend a warranty period for products shipped from authorized distributors by up to 30 days to account for shipping time.

If a defective part is covered by the warranty, what will Vestil do to correct the problem?

Vestil will provide an appropriate replacement for any covered part. An authorized representative of Vestil will contact you to discuss your claim.

What is not covered by the warranty?

The Warrantee (you) is responsible for paying labor costs and freight costs to return the product to Vestil for warranty service.

Events that automatically void this Limited Warranty.

- Misuse;
- Negligent assembly, installation, operation or repair;
- Installation/use in corrosive environments;
- Inadequate or improper maintenance;
- Damage sustained during shipping;
- Collisions or other accidents that damage the product;
- Unauthorized modifications: Do not modify the product IN ANY WAY without first receiving written authorization from Vestil.

Do any other warranties apply to the product?

Vestil Manufacturing Corp. makes no other express warranties. All implied warranties are disclaimed to the extent allowed by law. Any implied warranty not disclaimed is limited in scope to the terms of this Limited Warranty. Vestil makes no warranty or representation that this product complies with any state or local design, performance, or safety code or standard. Noncompliance with any such code or standard is not a defect in material or workmanship.

