



Dump Truck Tailgate Removal/Installation Procedures





Safe Operations

- Accomplish during daylight hours
- Personnel should stay clear of pinch points :
 - Dump Truck
 - Forklift
 - Tailgate





Personnel Certification

- **AF Form 483, Certificate of Competency**
- **Renewed every 3 years**
- **Required for Government Drivers License on Dump Truck**





Lesson Plan Procedures Overview



- Personnel, Qualifications & Equipment Requirements
- Tailgate Removal
- Tailgate Installation





Lesson Plan Procedures

- These procedures are applicable for most dump trucks (5-20 ton)
- The following lesson is demonstrated with a 10 ton dump truck
- If your truck does not have bottom pivot points and top hinge pins as illustrated check your owners manual and develop local procedures for removal/installation
- Be sure you use similar safety precautions identified in this lesson plan



Lesson One

Personnel Requirements

- Three people are required to accomplish this task:
 - Dump truck operator
 - Forklift operator
 - Spotter





Personnel Qualifications

- Operators qualified & licensed
- Thorough understanding of this lesson plan

CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY		CERTIFICATE NO.
NAME <i>(Last, First, Middle Initial)</i>		DATE
COMMAND	INSTALLATION	
HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE PRESCRIBED COURSE OF INSTRUCTION AND/OR PRACTICAL TEST AS REQUIRED BY CURRENT DIRECTIVES AND IS DEEMED QUALIFIED TO PERFORM THE DUTIES OF		
TYPED NAME, TITLE AND ORGN	SIGNATURE	

AF FORM 483, 19850201 (EF-V2)

PREVIOUS EDITION WILL BE USED.

REFRESHER TRAINING		
DATE	INSTRUCTOR	DATE REFRESHER

AF FORM 483, 19850201 (REVERSE) (EF-V2)



Equipment/Tool Requirements

- Dump Truck
- Forklift
- Hammer
- Punch





Personal Protective Equipment Requirements

- **Hardhat**
- **Gloves**
- **Hearing Protection**
- **Steel Toe Boots**
- **Eye protection**



Lesson Two

Tailgate Removal

- **Reasons for tailgate removal:**
 - Dump large bulky items**
 - Spread materials**
 - Install salt/sand spreader**





Step 1 – Operational Checks



Perform the operational checks on each vehicle using AF Form 1800/1806 as a checklist.



Step 2 – Safety/Operational Procedures Pre-Brief



- **Dump truck operator briefs:**
 - Forklift operator**
 - Spotter**



Step 3 – Remove Spreader Chains



- Dump truck operator removes:
Left spreader chain
Right spreader chain

THE TAILGATE MUST BE UPRIGHT, PINNED AND LOCKED BEFORE ATTEMPTING THIS STEP!



Step 4 – Tailgate Locking Lever

- **Dump truck operator ensures that the tailgate locking lever is in the closed/locked position**





Step 5 – Position the Forklift



- **Center forks:
12 inches below top of
tailgate**



**Eight inches away
from tailgate**



Step 6 – Remove Tailgate Pivot Pins



- Pull retainer/cotter pin
- Tap out the hinge pin (eye protection required)



Step 7 – Push Tailgate

- Push at the top of tailgate so it moves away from the bed
- Let the tailgate freefall onto the forklift tines



THE DUMP TRUCK OPERATOR MUST MOVE SAFELY AWAY FROM THE TAILGATE AFTER PERFORMING THIS PROCEDURE!



Step 8 – Exit Truck Bed



- Use ladder to exit bed



CAUTION

**ENSURE PERSONNEL ARE SAFELY
AWAY FROM TAILGATE DURING
STEPS 9 TO 12.**

**TAILGATE COULD QUICKLY SLAM
BACK TO DUMP TRUCK WHEN
FORKLIFT IS MOVED.**

CAUTION

**IF PROBLEMS ARE ENCOUNTERED,
THE OPERATIONS WILL STOP!
THE DUMP TRUCK OPERATOR,
SPOTTER, AND FORKLIFT
OPERATOR WILL EVALUATE
SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND
DEVELOP A PLAN BEFORE
RESUMING OPERATIONS.**



Step 9 – Level Forks

- Lower and level forks until tailgate becomes even with bed of truck





Step 10 – Support the Tailgate



- **Adjust forks: Move forklift forward or backwards to fully support tailgate**



TAILGATE COULD RAPIDLY SLAM AGAINST THE TRUCK.



Step 11 – Tailgate Locking Lever

- Dump truck operator releases tailgate locking lever





Step 12 – Tailgate Removal

- **Lower the tailgate *and* move it safely away from the dump truck**



- **Place the tailgate on dunnage material and install pins**



Step 13 – Hinge Pins

- Raise tailgate locking lever to the closed *and locked* position





Lesson Three

Tailgate Installation





Step 1 – Operational Checks



Perform the operational checks on each vehicle using AF Form 1800/1806 as a checklist.



Step 2 – Safety/Operational Procedures Pre-Brief



- **Dump truck operator briefs:**
 - Forklift operator**
 - Spotter**



Step 3 – Remove Tailgate Pins

- Pull retainer/cotter pin
- Tap out the hinge pin (eye protection must be worn if there is use of a hammer and punch)



Step 4 – Place Tailgate on Forks

- Direct the forks under tailgate





Step 4 – Place Tailgate on Forks (cont.)

- Ensure bottom of the tailgate is:
Facing away from the forklift *backrack* or *headache rack*

Forks *should not* protrude past lower *bottom* edge of the tailgate





Step 5 – Tailgate Locking Lever

- Dump truck operator releases the tailgate locking lever





CAUTION

**ENSURE PERSONNEL ARE SAFELY
AWAY FROM TAILGATE DURING
STEPS 6 TO 12.**

**TAILGATE COULD QUICKLY SLAM
BACK TO DUMP TRUCK WHEN
FORKLIFT IS MOVED.**



CAUTION

**IF PROBLEMS ARE ENCOUNTERED,
THE OPERATIONS WILL STOP!
THE DUMP TRUCK OPERATOR,
SPOTTER, AND FORKLIFT
OPERATOR WILL EVALUATE
SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND
DEVELOP A PLAN BEFORE
RESUMING OPERATIONS.**



Step 6 – Move Tailgate to Dump Truck

- Spotter directs forklift to rear of dump truck





Step 7 – Position Tailgate on Dump Truck

- Carefully *position the lower tailgate* pivot pins into the dump truck *bed's* tailgate saddles





Step 8 – Tailgate Locking Lever

- Dump truck operator raises the tailgate locking lever to the closed *and* locked position





Step 9 – Position Forklift for Raising Tailgate

- Spot the forklift back until forks are 12 to 16 inches from the top edge of tailgate





Step 10 – Raise Tailgate

- Forklift operator begins to slowly raise the tailgate
- Tilt the forks over at a 45 degree angle as you raise the tailgate



TAILGATE COULD SLAM BACK UP TO THE TRUCK.



Step 11 – Continue to Raise Tailgate

- Forklift operator slowly moves forward, as required, and continues to raise the tailgate



TAILGATE COULD SLAM BACK UP TO THE TRUCK.



Step 12 – Finish Raising the Tailgate

- Repeat steps 10 and 11 until tailgate is in the full upright position



TAILGATE COULD SLAM BACK UP TO THE TRUCK.



Step 13 – Install Tailgate Pivot Pins



- Install hinge pin
- Install the retainer/cotter pin



Step 14 – Move Forklift Away from Dump Truck





Step 15 –Dump Truck Operator Exits Bed





Step 16 – Install & Adjust Spreader Chains

- **Dump truck operator installs and adjusts both spreader chains**





TRAINING VALIDATION

**See Unit Training Manager
to Take CerTest # 8175.**

80% or greater required for certification.

**Print passing CerTest result and take to
VCO/VCNCO or unit designated POC for
issue of AF Form 483.**



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