

# PHILIPS

## Qwik Tech Tips

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### FEATURED PRODUCT

#### Qwik-E® Gladhands

- Cuts brake release time in half
- Trailer brakes are re-leased up to 50% faster than conventional methods
- Drivers love it
- Reduces brake lining and drum wear



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PAST ISSUES

### A properly sealed air line is extremely important!

Inspecting gladhands regularly is one easy way to protect your airlines. They are a critical piece of the air system and if maintained properly, they will keep you on the road longer with no problems. Gladhands allow the air brake system of a tractor to be connected and unconnected to a trailer at anytime. The gladhands connect downstream of the air system dryer, and failing to care for them will allow moisture to penetrate the system and cause trouble.



Broken edges and cracks indicate it's time to replace the gladhand seal.

Gladhands have rubber seals that enable them to seal tightly to each other. It's important to check gladhands for leaks regularly. The seals eventually wear out overtime because of the turning action of coupling and uncoupling. Your drivers will usually hear leaks when they disengage the parking brake or apply pressure to the service brakes. If the leak is generated at the gladhand seal and the driver has a supply of gladhand seals on board, the leak can be fixed immediately before air consumption is increased. Increased air consumption weakens the desiccant in the dryer, ultimately resulting in a need for service. Leaks also cause more wear on the air compressor. When leaking seals are replaced immediately, it ensures

that the air compressors and air dryer desiccants will last longer, and you'll get better braking.

Another simple preventive maintenance tip is to always store the gladhands to their stowaways when dropping a trailer. If they're not kept sealed, damage to the brake system components could ensue by either allowing debris to enter or, in extreme cold temperature, allowing moisture to cause a freeze-up of the service or parking brakes.



NOTE: Seals with flaps, like shown here, will help seal the gladhand shut when it is disconnected, keeping moisture and dirt out of the air line system.

Other protective options to consider,

- Anodized gladhands for added protection against corrosive elements
- Filter screens to keep debris out of the air lines
- Polyurethane seals last longer than standard materials because they hold up better against the elements
- Stainless steel detent plates for added strength
- Powder-coated and zinc-coated detent plates for added corrosion protection
- Replacing gladhands every time you replace your air coils
- Carry extra gladhand seals at all times.

The April Qwik Tech Tips will illustrate how to easily replace worn out gladhand seals .



- Inspect gladhands regularly – failure to care for them properly allows moisture to penetrate air system
- Gladhands have rubber seals that enable them to seal tightly to each other. The seals eventually wear out
- Leaks at the gladhand should be fixed immediately by replacing rubber seals. Always carry extra seals on board
- With good gladhand seals in place air compressors and air dryer desiccants will last longer, and you'll get better braking.
- Always store the gladhands to their stowaways when dropping a trailer .