

# TOOLBOX SAFETY TRAINING

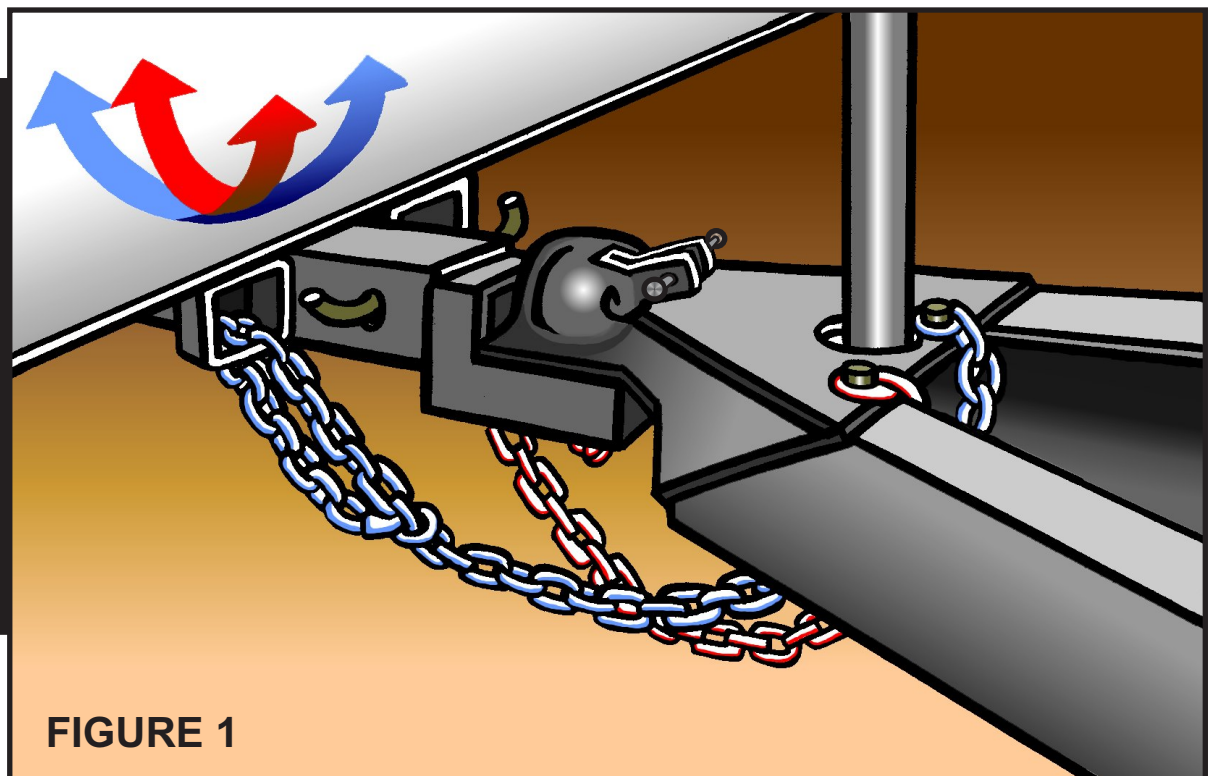
Company \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Vol 16 - No 39 TRAILER HITCH SAFETY

### SAFETY AWARENESS FOR CONNECTING A TRAILER HITCH AND SAFETY CHAINS BEFORE TOWING BUMPER PULL TRAILERS

1. The trailer hitch ball should be located at a height allowing the trailer to sit level when connected to the tow vehicle.
2. The trailer hitch ball should be lightly greased so the hitch rotates smoothly on it.
3. Always inspect the hitch and trailer tongue for cracks before hooking up. Rust is a major cause of equipment failure.
4. Safety chains should be long enough to allow for tight turns and be crossed (right to left and left to right). This will create a "saddle" if you have a hitch failure and will help maintain control while stopping (Figure 1).
5. Don't allow the chains to drag on the pavement because it could cause damage to the chains.
6. Check the trailer lights and the trailer brakes each time the trailer is hooked up.
7. Always try to do things in the same order each time you hitch up and use a checklist.
8. Don't forget to retract the jack.
9. Don't ever hook a trailer up halfway or you may forget to finish the job.
10. Don't start to hitch up if you can't finish and don't ever leave the receptor pin on a receiver hitch out even for a minute.
11. Ensure you have the proper size ball to secure the trailer to.

Safety chains should be long enough to allow for tight turns and be crossed from right to left and left to right



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