

## CURT 16204

# CURT 16204 Industry-Standard 5th Wheel Hitch Rails Instruction Manual

Model: 16204

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of the CURT 16204 Industry-Standard 5th Wheel Hitch Rails. These rails are designed to provide a secure mounting platform for 5th wheel hitches in truck beds, ensuring safe and reliable towing. Please read this manual thoroughly before installation and use to ensure optimal performance and safety.



Image 1.1: The CURT 16204 Industry-Standard 5th Wheel Hitch Rails. These are two black, heavy-duty steel rails with multiple slots and holes for mounting a 5th wheel hitch in a truck bed.

## 2. SAFETY INFORMATION

**WARNING:** Improper installation or use of this product can result in serious injury or death. Always follow all instructions and safety precautions.

- Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) during installation, including safety glasses and gloves.
- Ensure the vehicle is parked on a level surface and the parking brake is engaged before beginning installation.

- Never exceed the maximum weight capacity of the hitch rails (25,000 lbs GTW) or your vehicle's towing capacity, whichever is lower.
- Regularly inspect the hitch rails and all mounting hardware for signs of wear, damage, or corrosion. Replace any damaged components immediately.
- Consult your vehicle's owner's manual for specific towing guidelines and restrictions.

## 3. PRODUCT OVERVIEW AND SPECIFICATIONS

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### 3.1. What's in the Box

- Two (2) CURT 16204 Industry-Standard 5th Wheel Hitch Rails
- *Note: Mounting hardware and bracket kits are typically sold separately and are required for installation.*

### 3.2. Key Features

- **Universal Compatibility:** Designed to work with all CURT and competitive 5th wheel trailer hitches and rollers.
- **Durable Finish:** Features a co-cured liquid A-coat and durable carbide black powder coat for corrosion, scratch, and UV resistance.
- **High Capacity:** Rated for a Gross Trailer Weight (GTW) of 25,000 lbs.
- **Versatile:** Accommodates gooseneck adapters and Spyder gooseneck hitches.

# FEATURES & BENEFITS

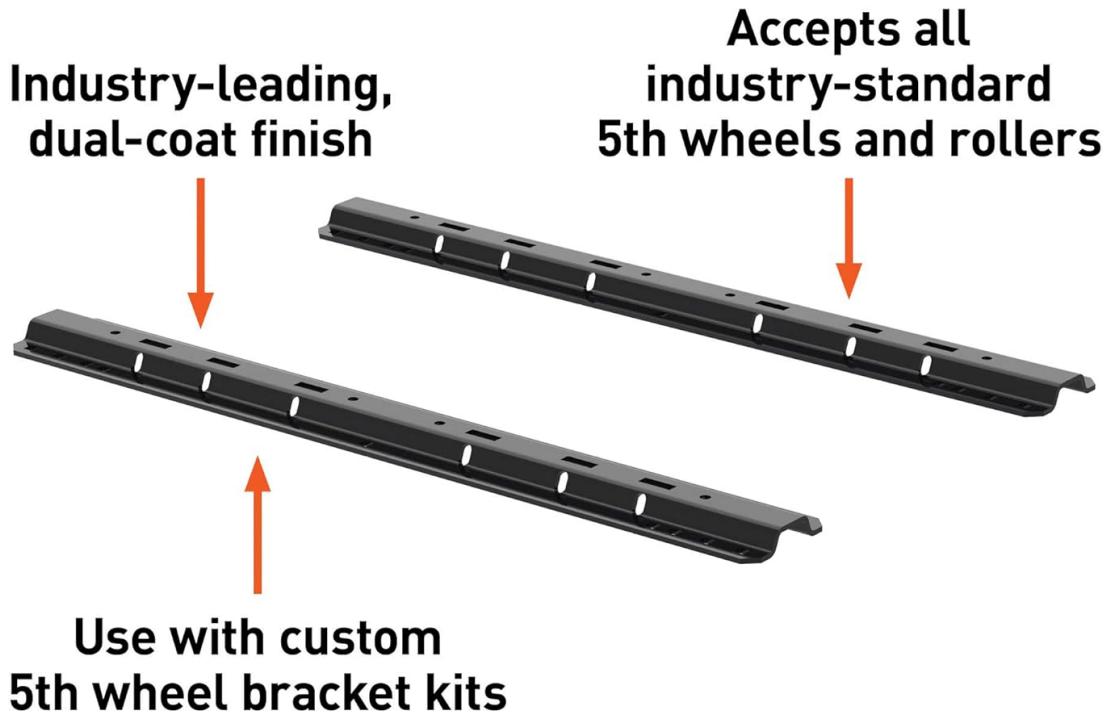


Image 3.1: Diagram highlighting key features of the CURT 5th wheel rails, including the dual-coat finish and compatibility with industry-standard 5th wheels and custom bracket kits.

## 3.3. Product Specifications

Specification	Detail
Model Number	16204
Brand	CURT
Item Weight	34.1 pounds
Exterior Finish	Carbide Black Powder Coat
Gross Trailer Weight (GTW) Rating	25,000 lbs
Dimensions (Approximate)	43.00" (Length) x 6.50" (Width of each rail)

# APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS

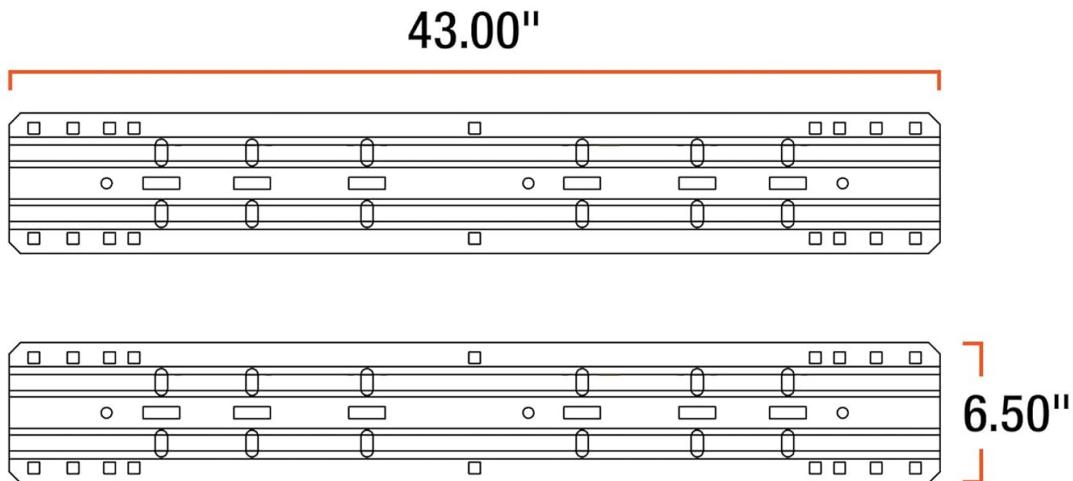


Image 3.2: Approximate dimensions of the CURT 5th wheel rails, showing a length of 43.00 inches and a width of 6.50 inches per rail.

## 4. SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Installation of the CURT 16204 5th wheel hitch rails requires a compatible 5th wheel bracket kit (sold separately) specific to your truck's make and model. Refer to the instructions provided with your bracket kit for detailed vehicle-specific installation steps.

### 4.1. General Installation Steps (Consult Bracket Kit Instructions for Details)

- 1. Prepare Vehicle:** Park the truck on a level surface, engage the parking brake, and turn off the engine.
- 2. Position Bracket Kit:** Install the vehicle-specific under-bed bracket kit according to its instructions. This typically involves drilling holes through the truck bed.
- 3. Position Rails:** Place the CURT 5th wheel rails in the truck bed, aligning the slots and holes on the rails with the mounting points of the installed bracket kit. Ensure proper spacing and alignment for your specific 5th wheel hitch.
- 4. Secure Rails:** Use the provided zinc-plated bolts and other hardware from your bracket kit to securely fasten the rails to the under-bed brackets. Tighten all fasteners to the torque specifications outlined in your bracket kit instructions.
- 5. Install 5th Wheel Hitch:** Once the rails are securely installed, mount your compatible 5th wheel hitch

onto the rails. Ensure the hitch is properly seated and locked into place as per the hitch manufacturer's instructions.

## FEATURES & BENEFITS

Accepts all industry-standard  
5th wheels and rollers



Image 4.1: A CURT A20 5th wheel hitch securely mounted on the installed 5th wheel rails in a truck bed. This demonstrates the final installed appearance.



Image 4.2: A technician using specialized tools to work on the underside of a vehicle frame, illustrating the type of work involved in installing under-bed bracket kits.

## 5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The CURT 16204 5th wheel hitch rails serve as the foundation for your 5th wheel hitch. Proper operation

primarily involves ensuring the hitch is correctly engaged with the trailer and that all connections are secure.

1. **Hitch Engagement:** Follow the specific operating instructions for your 5th wheel hitch to properly connect it to your trailer. This typically involves backing the truck under the trailer kingpin until the hitch jaws engage.
2. **Safety Checks:** Before each tow, perform a thorough safety check:
  - Verify the 5th wheel hitch is securely locked onto the kingpin.
  - Ensure all safety pins and clips are in place.
  - Check that the trailer's landing gear is fully retracted.
  - Confirm electrical and brake connections are properly made and functioning.
  - Inspect the hitch rails and mounting hardware for any visible damage or looseness.
3. **Towing:** Drive cautiously, adhering to all traffic laws and towing regulations. Be mindful of the increased length and weight of your vehicle combination.
4. **Disengagement:** Follow your 5th wheel hitch's instructions for safely disconnecting the trailer.



Image 5.1: A CURT A25 5th wheel hitch installed in a truck bed, ready for towing. The truck bed also contains firewood, demonstrating the utility of the setup.



Image 5.2: A truck equipped with a 5th wheel hitch system, towing a large travel trailer on a road, illustrating the product in its intended use.

## 6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and safe operation of your CURT 5th wheel hitch rails.

- **Inspection:** Before each use, visually inspect the rails for any signs of damage, cracks, bends, or excessive wear. Check all bolts and fasteners for tightness.
- **Cleaning:** Keep the rails clean from dirt, debris, and road salt. Wash with mild soap and water, then rinse thoroughly.
- **Corrosion Protection:** The carbide black powder coat provides excellent corrosion resistance. However, if any scratches or chips occur, touch up the affected areas with a rust-inhibiting paint to prevent corrosion.
- **Lubrication:** While the rails themselves do not require lubrication, ensure that your 5th wheel hitch components are lubricated according to the hitch manufacturer's recommendations.

## 7. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues related to 5th wheel hitch rails. For issues specific to your 5th

wheel hitch, refer to its instruction manual.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Rails appear loose in truck bed.	Mounting bolts are loose.	Inspect and re-tighten all mounting bolts to the specified torque.
Corrosion or rust spots on rails.	Damage to powder coat finish.	Clean the affected area, remove any loose rust, and apply a rust-inhibiting paint.
5th wheel hitch does not fit rails.	Incorrect hitch model or improper rail installation.	Verify hitch compatibility with industry-standard rails. Recheck rail installation and alignment.

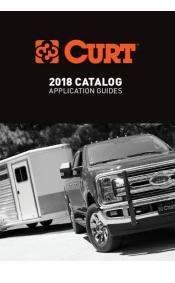
## 8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

CURT products are manufactured to high-quality standards. For specific warranty information regarding the CURT 16204 5th Wheel Hitch Rails, please refer to the warranty documentation included with your purchase or visit the official CURT website. For technical support or assistance, contact CURT customer service directly.

**Manufacturer:** CURT Manufacturing

**Website:** [www.curtmfg.com](http://www.curtmfg.com)

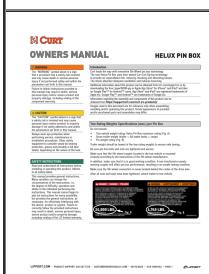
### Related Documents - 16204

	<p><a href="#"><u>CURT E16 5th Wheel Hitch Installation Instructions</u></a></p> <p>Comprehensive installation, operation, and maintenance instructions for the CURT E16 5th Wheel Hitch, including safety precautions, coupling and uncoupling procedures, and warranty information.</p>
	<p><a href="#"><u>CURT A25 5th Wheel Hitch Installation, Operation, and Maintenance Guide</u></a></p> <p>Comprehensive installation, operation, maintenance, and warranty guide for the CURT A25 5th Wheel Hitch (Model 16180). Includes safety precautions, assembly steps, coupling procedures, troubleshooting, and care instructions.</p>
	<p><a href="#"><u>CURT 2018 Catalog: Trailer Hitches, Towing Accessories &amp; Electrical Guides</u></a></p> <p>Explore the comprehensive CURT 2018 Catalog featuring trailer hitches, towing accessories, brake controls, custom wiring, and essential application guides for safe and reliable towing.</p>



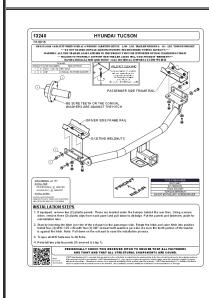
[CURT 17352 Weight Distribution Hitch Installation Manual](#)

Comprehensive installation manual for the CURT 17352 Weight Distribution Hitch, covering assembly, measurements, installation steps, adjustments, and towing tips for safe and effective trailer towing.



[CURT Helux Pin Box Owner's Manual and Hitching Guide](#)

Comprehensive owner's manual for the CURT Helux Pin Box, detailing safety instructions, hitching procedures, pull testing, and troubleshooting for 5th wheel RV towing.



[CURT 13240 Class III Trailer Hitch Installation Guide for Hyundai Tucson](#)

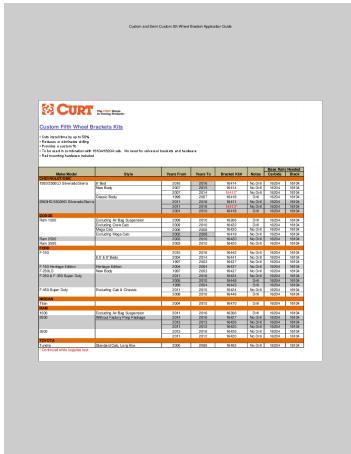
Step-by-step installation instructions for the CURT 13240 Class III receiver hitch, designed for the Hyundai Tucson. Includes parts list, tools required, safety warnings, and warranty details.

Documents - CURT – 16204

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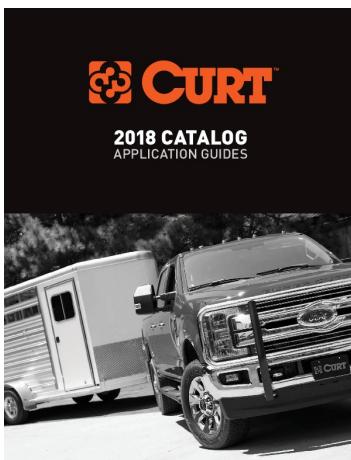
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### [\[pdf\] Installation Guide Guide Application Guide](#)

Curt 5th Wheels Hitches Application Guide wheel hitch fifth trailer towing rollers sliders brackets rails sidewinder custom adapters CARiD 16437 application guide images carid curt hitches ||| Custom and Semi-Custom 5th Wheel Bracket Applicaiton Guide Custom Fifth Wheel Brackets Kits Cuts install time by up to 50 Reduces or eliminates drilling Provides a custom fit To be used in combination with 16104/16204 rails. No need for universal brackets and hardware Rail mounting hardware i...

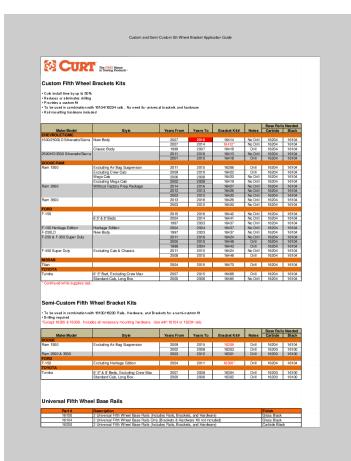
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### [CURT 2018 Catalog: Trailer Hitches, Towing Accessories & Electrical Guides](#)

Explore the comprehensive CURT 2018 Catalog featuring trailer hitches, towing accessories, brake controls, custom wiring, and essential application guides for safe and reliable towing.

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### [\[pdf\] Installation Guide Guide](#)

Keith Fifth Wheel Brackets Guide 4qte Curt Custom KitsCustom KitsUniversal Base Rails Part Description

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Custom and Semi-Custom 5th Wheel Bracket Applicaiton Guide Custom Fifth Wheel Brackets Kits Cuts install time by up to 50 Reduces or eliminates drilling Provides a custom fit To be used in combination with 16104/16204 rails. No need for universal brackets and hardware Rail mounting hardware i...

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5TH WHEEL HITCHES CURT offers a full line of 5th wheel products including rollers and hitches in 16K 20K 24K capacities s flagship 2013 Catalog Wheel Hitches assets curtmgf webfiles

5th Wheel Hitches CURT offers a full line of 5th wheel products, including rollers and hitches in 16" and 20" heights or eliminates drilling, which can cut installation times in half. Use in combination with 16104/16204 rails. No need for universal brackets and hardware. 16424 Make/Model Style Chevrolet/GMC 1500 2WD

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[pdf] Installation Guide Accessories

Z6A Only OEM Puck System 5th Wheel Kits Keith Gehrke legs Vehicle Roller Adapter CURT Part 16023  
for GM 19355905 Adapts any wheel roller to fit the puck system ordering made easy 2 21 18  
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Z6A Only OEM Puck System 5th Wheel Kits legs GM Part# 19352638 and 19352639 Converts any CURT 5t ... iring harness 5th wheel roller provides 12 of travel for short-bed trucks CURT 16130 CURT 16130, **16204**, 16411 56070 CURT 16530, **16204**, 16550 16411 56070 Q25 5th Wheel Hitch Options this wil

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Kacey Christman Custom 5th Wheel Under-Bed Brackets & Base Rails 2500 ALL 11 12 16420 No 16204  
16104 Excluding wheel prep package 14 21 16427 3500 13 16430 Yes

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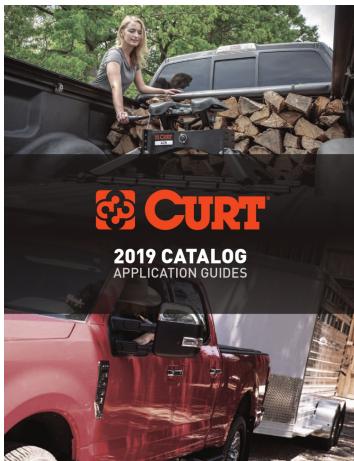
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## [pdf] Application Guide Catalog

CURT Catalog Trailer Hitches Wiring 5th Wheel Gooseneck AM media lippert Design Team Catalogs |||  
**CATALOG APPLICATION GUIDES INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK FOR TWO-PAGE VIEWING EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO ...** mounting system for your customer's truck, see page 203 Base Rails # -16200 -16200 -16200 -16205 **-16204 -16204**

-16204 Height Range 13 - 17 14 - 18 13 - 17 14 - 18 13 - 17 14 - 18 13 - ...

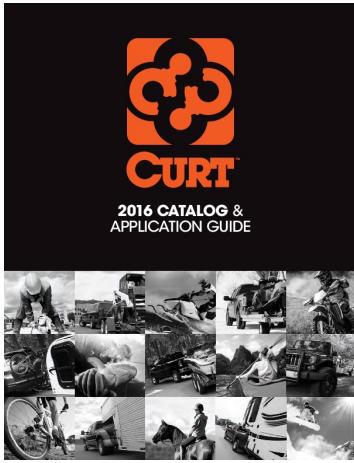


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CURT Trailer Hitches Towing Catalog trailer hitches towing ball mounts 5th wheel gooseneck front pintle hooks tow lunette rings weight distribution hitch covers steps mount bike carriers pins locks accessories cargo wiring harness electrical connectors brake controllers sway control parts couplers jacks breakaway kits tool boxes winches brakes CARiD 2019 catalog images cardi curt info |||

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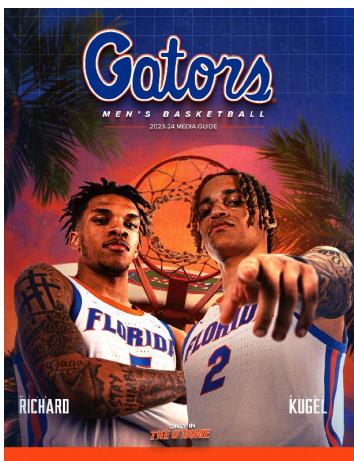
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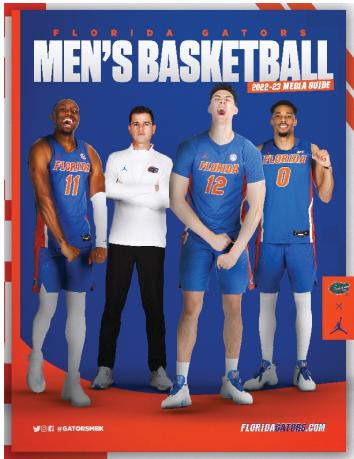
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QUICK FACTS 2-16 Coaches S ... 2nd Half: 10-17 58.8 Game: 57.1 Technical fouls: James Madison-None. Florida-None. Attendance: **16204** Score by Period James Madison Florida 1st 2nd Final 22 40 62 18 46 64 pf tp 4 3 3 27...  
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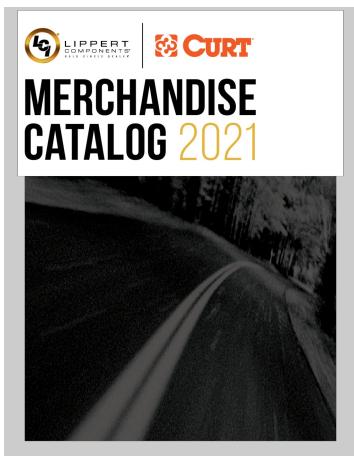


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GOOSENECK HITCHES CURTDrop ball storage helps avoid trailer loss and keeps truck bed free of obstruction Chrome 2 5 16 Heavy duty handles trim Gooseneck Hitches 14assets curtmfg webfiles Gooseneck 14 |||

Gooseneck Scan for live digital version hitches GOOSENECK HITCHES Quality craftsmanship and intel ... s Some vehicles require semi-custom brackets, see page 214 16100 Gloss 16200 Carbide 16104 Gloss **16204** Carbide 16103 16101 16111 Gloss# 16100 16104 16101 --- Carbide# 16200 **16204** ---- Zinc# -...

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INTRODUCTION...2-5 Table of Contents...2 ... , ready to uncouple Jaws open, ready to couple Jaws locked, ready to tow 16428 brackets shown with **16204** base rails CUSTOM BRACKETS BASE RAILS Vehicle-specific bracket applications eliminate drill...

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