DEXTER AXLE K71-653-06

Dexter E-Z Flex Equalizer Tandem Kit K71-653-06 Instruction Manual

Model: K71-653-06

1. Introduction

This instruction manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of the Dexter E-Z Flex Equalizer Tandem Kit, model K71-653-06. This kit is designed to enhance the suspension performance of trailers with tandem axles, offering improved ride quality and durability. It is intended for use with 35-inch axle spacing and axles with up to 8,000 lbs. capacity, utilizing 26.00-inch double eye springs.

The E-Z Flex system incorporates a resilient rubber core to absorb road shocks, contributing to a smoother ride and reduced stress on the trailer frame and its contents. This kit is a direct replacement for existing 013-122-02 equalizers.

2. Product Components

The Dexter E-Z Flex Equalizer Tandem Kit K71-653-06 includes the following components:

- 2 x E-Z Flex Equalizer Assembly (PN 013-144-06)
- 12 x Hex Lock Nut (PN 006-092-01)
- 2 x Shackle Bolt - 9/16" (PN 007-003-01)
- 4 x Step Bolt, Short Wet - 7/16" (PN 007-187-00)
- 8 x Bushing, Bronze (PN 014-077-00)
- 4 x Shackle Link (PN 018-024-01)
- 4 x Shackle Link Assembly (PN 018-026-00)
- 2 x Hex Lock Nut 9/16" - 18 Plated (PN 006-007-01)
- 1 x Instruction Sheet (PN 059-A45-00)



Image 2.1: Overview of the Dexter E-Z Flex Equalizer Tandem Kit components. The image displays two red E-Z Flex equalizer assemblies, various shackle links, bolts, bronze bushings, and nuts, all necessary for installation.

3. Installation

The Dexter E-Z Flex Equalizer Tandem Kit is designed for retrofitting to existing leaf spring axles that currently use 013-122 style equalizers. This installation process does not require welding, grinding, or cutting of the trailer frame or axle hangers, ensuring the trailer's original ride height is maintained.

3.1. Pre-Installation Checklist

- Ensure the trailer is safely supported and secured.
- Gather all necessary tools for suspension work.
- Verify that the kit components match the 'Product Components' list.
- Confirm axle spacing is 35 inches and axle capacity is up to 8,000 lbs.

3.2. Installation Steps

1. Safely lift and support the trailer, ensuring the wheels are off the ground and the suspension is unloaded.
2. Remove the existing equalizers and associated hardware from the trailer's suspension system.
3. Install the new E-Z Flex Equalizer Assemblies (PN 013-144-06) in place of the old equalizers.
4. Utilize the provided bronze bushings, shackle links, bolts, and nuts to secure all connections.
5. Ensure all bolts are tightened to the manufacturer's specified torque settings (refer to the included instruction sheet PN 059-A45-00 for detailed torque specifications).
6. Verify that all components are properly aligned and move freely without binding.
7. Lower the trailer and perform a visual inspection of the installed components.

Note: If you are unfamiliar with trailer suspension systems, it is recommended to seek professional installation to ensure safety and proper function.

4. Operation

The Dexter E-Z Flex Equalizer system is designed to improve the operational characteristics of your trailer's suspension. Its innovative design features a resilient rubber core positioned between two equalizer arms. This core is engineered to provide optimal dampening, effectively isolating and absorbing road shocks before they transfer to

the trailer frame and its cargo.
The system maintains axle equalization by pivoting on a standard hanger. This pivot point allows the axles to equalize over uneven terrain, which is crucial for stability and ride comfort. During travel, the E-Z Flex system continuously pivots and compresses, ensuring consistent contact with the road and a smoother towing experience.

5. Maintenance

Regular maintenance is crucial for the longevity and optimal performance of your Dexter E-Z Flex Equalizer Tandem Kit. The kit includes standard grease zerks and wet bolts, facilitating easy lubrication for added protection and serviceability.

5.1. Lubrication

- **Frequency:** Lubricate all grease zerks and wet bolts at regular intervals, typically every 3,000 to 5,000 miles, or annually, whichever comes first. More frequent lubrication may be necessary under severe operating conditions (e.g., heavy loads, rough terrain, frequent exposure to water/salt).
- **Procedure:** Use a high-quality, marine-grade lithium complex grease. Apply grease until it purges from the bronze bushings, indicating full lubrication.
- **Components:** Pay particular attention to the bronze bushings and heavy-duty shackle links, as proper lubrication here ensures optimum performance and durability.

5.2. Inspection

- Periodically inspect all components for signs of wear, damage, or corrosion.
- Check for loose nuts or bolts and tighten to specifications as needed.
- Ensure the rubber core of the equalizer assemblies is free from cracks or significant deterioration.

6. Troubleshooting

This section addresses common issues that may arise with trailer suspension systems. For complex problems or if you are unsure about any repair, consult a qualified trailer mechanic.

6.1. Excessive Trailer Sway or Instability

- **Possible Cause:** Worn or damaged equalizer components, improper tire pressure, or incorrect weight distribution.
- **Action:** Inspect equalizers, bushings, and shackle links for wear. Ensure tires are inflated to recommended pressures. Verify proper trailer loading and weight distribution.

6.2. Squeaking or Noises from Suspension

- **Possible Cause:** Lack of lubrication in bushings or worn components.
- **Action:** Lubricate all grease points as per the maintenance section. Inspect bronze bushings and shackle links for wear and replace if necessary.

6.3. Uneven Trailer Ride Height

- **Possible Cause:** Damaged leaf springs, worn equalizers, or uneven loading.
- **Action:** Inspect leaf springs for damage. Check equalizer assemblies for proper function and wear. Ensure trailer is loaded evenly.

7. Specifications

Manufacturer	Dexter
Brand	DEXTER AXLE
Model	E-Z Flex Equalizer Tandem Complete Kit
Item Model Number	K71-653-06
Item Weight	28.9 pounds
Product Dimensions	11.5 x 9.25 x 5 inches
Exterior Finish	Powder Coated (Red)
Special Features	Powder coated, Rubber cushion
Axle Spacing Compatibility	35 inches
Axle Capacity Compatibility	Up to 8,000 lbs.
Spring Type Compatibility	26.00" Double eye springs - tandem axles

8. Warranty and Support

For information regarding product warranty, technical support, or replacement parts, please contact Dexter Axle directly through their official website or customer service channels. Ensure you have your product model number (K71-653-06) and purchase details available when contacting support.
For additional resources and product information, visit theDEXTER AXLE Store.

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