

Fontaine ARMOR™ operator differences

The Fontaine ARMOR fifth wheel was designed specifically for the yard truck market from the ground up. There are a couple of differences between operating the Fontaine ARMOR yard truck fifth wheel and other yard truck fifth wheels.

Opening the Fontaine ARMOR wheel

When the unlatch button is pressed (Figure 1), the fifth wheel opens, moving the lock jaw across the throat and “setting up” for the next couple (Figure 3). If you continue to hold the button down during the coupling process, the fifth wheel will not latch properly.



Figure 1: Fifth wheel unlatch button activation

When the fifth wheel opens, it exposes the air cylinder shaft and indicates to the operator that the wheel is in the unlocked position (Figure 2).



Figure 2: Lock open on ARMOR fifth wheel



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Anti-high hitch feature

The Fontaine ARMOR will ONLY trip closed when the trigger is pushed back off the stationary jaw stop. This helps prevent dropped trailers by ensuring the wheel is at the proper height for coupling.

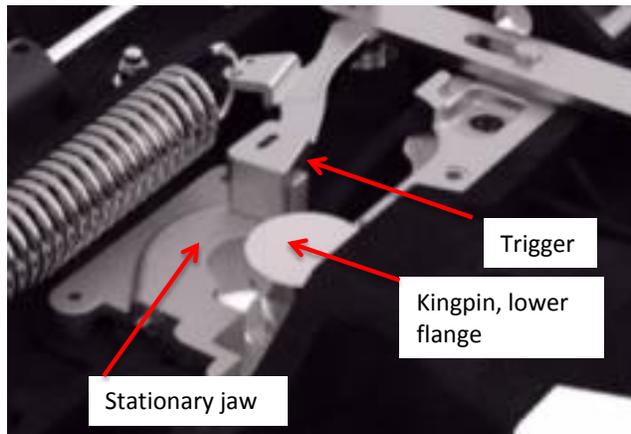


Figure 3: Kingpin tripping the lock closed

This feature requires that the top surface of the fifth wheel be flat against the trailer plate to position the kingpin properly within the throat of the wheel (Figure 4). As with any fifth wheel, the proper way to couple involves raising the trailer with the fifth wheel and ensuring the trailer plate is flat against the top of the fifth wheel plate. More information on proper coupling instructions for the driver can be found here: http://www.fifthwheel.com/armor/video_armor_operating_instructions.html



Figure 4: Fifth wheel plate is flat against trailer plate