



THE FIRST NAME IN QUALITY COUPLINGS

Installation, Inspection, Operation & Maintenance Guide



Model 690L / 690R / 690T Coupling

IMPORTANT

Read these instructions completely before installing, using or attempting to repair this product. If you have any questions, call Premier at (800) 255-5387 or (503) 234-9202.

Selecting The Right Equipment

Whatever your application, selecting the proper equipment for the job is very important. Proper selection along with regular inspection and maintenance will help keep operating costs minimal while providing long life to each component. Below are general guidelines for selecting Premier Couplings and Drawbar Eyes. If you feel that your application is unique, please give Premier a call so that we may help you through the selection process.

Follow these four steps to ensure proper selection of Premier Couplings and Drawbar Eyes.

Step 1:
Determine "Gross
Trailer(s) Weight"
(GVWR(s) of towed trailers)

Step 2:
Determine "Tongue
Weight Capacity"

(Maximum occurring tongue weight)

<u>Step 3:</u> Add Margin of Safety

(Dependent upon your equipment and operating environment)

Step 4: Browse Premier Product Catalog

(Based on Steps 1 - 3)

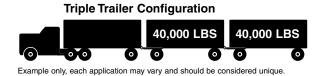
Step 1: Determine "Gross Trailer(s) Weight"

"Gross Trailer(s) Weight" is usually determined by the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR). This information is attached to the trailer by the trailer manufacturer.

Double Trailer Configuration 40,000 LBS

For "Double Trailer" configurations, only the rear trailer is considered when selecting your Premier Coupling or Drawbar Eye. In this example, a Coupling and Drawbar Eye with a "Gross Trailer Weight" rating of 40,000 lbs. (18,143 kg) would be the minimum rating acceptable for normal, over-the-road applications (see Tongue Weight section below).

Example only, each application may vary and should be considered unique.



For "Triple Trailers", only the two most rearward trailers are considered in selecting your Premier Coupling or Drawbar Eye. In this example, a Coupling and Drawbar Eye with a "Gross Trailer Weight" rating of 80,000 lbs. (36,287 kg) would be the minimum acceptable for normal, over-the-road applications (see Tongue Weight section below).

Step 2: Determine "Tongue Weight Capacity"



"Tongue Weight Capacity" is the maximum expected weight at the drawbar eye. If a hinged drawbar is used, the maximum weight will be approximately 1/2 the overall drawbar weight. If a non-hinged drawbar is used and the actual tongue weight is not known, you can approximate the weight by multiplying the GVWR of the towed trailer by 15%. However, each application is unique and the best practice is to weigh the tongue when the trailer is loaded to its GVWR.

Step 3: Considering Operating Conditions and Environments

Environments such as rough uneven roads or off-road use can dramatically increase shock loads to both drawbar eyes and couplings. In general, increasing the "Gross Trailer Weight" (Step 1:) and "Tongue Weight Capacity" (Step 2:) by a minimum of 25% will be sufficient for many applications. Even if an application is used off-road occasionally, the minimum increase necessary for Gross Trailer and Tongue Weight is 25%. Certain types of equipment and/or operating practices can also dramatically increase loads through equipment binding and/or improper loading practices. Of special concern is high tongue weight. However, each application is unique and every environment different, therefore your application may require more than 25%.

Once both "Gross Trailers(s) Weight" (Step 1:) and "Tongue Weight Capacity" (Step 2:) have been determined, evaluate your operating conditions and apply an appropriate margin of safety.

Step 4: Browse Premier Product Catalog

Browse the Premier Product Catalog and refer to the "Specifications" section of each product. Be sure to review the "Understanding Premier Load Specifications" section and "Coupling to Drawbar Eye Cross-Reference" sheet on the next couple pages.



Selecting The Right Equipment

Understanding Premier Load Specifications

Each Premier product undergoes extensive design and testing prior to being introduced. We use the latest in Computer Aided Design and Analysis Software as well as physical destructive tests. Premier's published load specifications are the maximum load a given product or part will withstand without failure. Premier's testing procedures closely follow the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) guidelines of Recommended Practice for testing Couplings and Drawbar Eyes (SAE J847 & J849).

Maximum occurring tongue weight. Static as well as dynamic loads.

Weight of Trailer(s) being towed (see "Selecting Premier Couplings & Drawbar Eyes").

Maximum load on latch or upper coupling surface containing drawbar eye. Latches and upper coupling surfaces are not designed for sustained load at this

stated capacity.

The largest x-section in eyelet portion of eye. Used to determine compatibility with coupling.

Maximum Gross Trailer Weight: 30,000 lbs. (13,607 kg) Maximum Tongue Weight: 4,500 lbs. (2,041 kg) Ultimate Latch/Upward Vertical Capacity: 5,000 lbs. (2,267 kg) Maximum Eye X-Section: 1 13/16 in. (46 mm) Minimum Eye Opening: 2 in. (51 mm) Unit Weight: 12.6 lbs. (5.7 kg)

Minimum inside diameter of evelet portion of eve. Used to determine compatibility with coupling.

Weight of unit or pair of units without accessories.

Importance of Inspection and Maintenance

Whether you use Premier Jacks, Couplings, Drawbar Eyes, Hinge Assemblies or any other Premier product, regular inspection and maintenance are essential for proper function, keeping repair costs to a minimum and above all, safe and efficient operation.

To determine wear limits, Premier created Wear Gages that help judge the useful life of couplings and drawbar eyes (details in catalog). In accordance with Premier and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, these were designed to identify wear at the critical percentages of 18% and 20%, by measuring the crosssection of coupling hooks (horn) and drawbar eye loops. 18% wear indicates that

the product should be replaced as soon as possible. At 20% wear, the product is no longer in usable condition and must be taken out of service immediately and replaced. The latch gage bar measures the gap space between the top of the coupling hook and the closed latch. If the 3/8" latch gage bar can pass between this region, then the latch components should be considered worn past safe limits and replaced. Please note that these wear gage specifications are in accordance with Premier Mfg. Co. and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (refer to other manufacturer's specifications for wear limits on their products).

Premier also provides Installation Guides for each of our major products. These help guide you through installation, inspection, routine maintenance and part replacement. Another resource is our website at www.premier-mfg.com. Here you will find Installation Guides, Service Guides, distributor locations, online catalogs, product information, trade show schedules and links to trucking resources.

"The Harder 🔻 You Work It. The Harder It Gets"

"Premalloy" - Premier's Exclusive Alloy

"The harder you work it, the harder it gets" best describes how Premalloy performs. Premalloy actually work hardens at the contact surfaces during normal use, which results in longer service life. Premalloy is highly recommended for off-road and aggregate type applications due to its wear resistant characteristics. Many of Premier's couplings are made from this exclusive material. As you are browsing the catalog, look for the Premalloy icon next to the product photos to determine which models are made of this material.

Selecting The Right Equipment

Coupling to Drawbar Eye Cross Reference Chart

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† Saf-Tite Product

* Industrial Application

CAUTION: Verify that both the coupling's and drawbar eye's rated capacities meet your application(s) requirements.

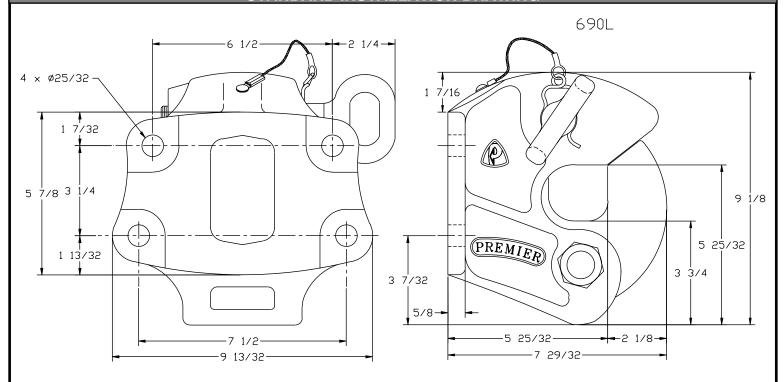
SPECIFICATIONS AND LOAD CAPACITIES

SAFETY WARNING

This product is designed for towing under normal conditions within the stated gross trailer weight. Do not overload or abuse this product. Overloading or abuse may lead to property damage, severe injury, or death.

Gross Trailer Weight: 90,000 lbs. (40,823 kg) Maximum Tongue Weight: 18,000 lbs. (8,164 kg) **Ultimate Latch Capacity:** 40,000 lbs. (18,143 kg) Maximum Eye X-Section: 1 11/16 in. (43 mm) Minimum Eye Opening: 2 3/8 in. (60 mm) Unit Weight: 42 lbs. (19 kg)

STANDARD INSTALLATION DRAWING



INFORMATION

690LRK/690RRK/690TRK Parts Kit Includes:

16DS: Drive Screw *693: Pawl (specify left 266: Spring

or right) 294: Bolt **691W: Handle Lug 297: Locknut and Shaft

387: Locknut **691T: Handle

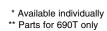
581EF: Clip & Cable **695T: Spring

691: Handle 692: Hook

695: Spring

*691C: Handle Assembly

*691L: Bushing (specify left or right)





*691L: Handle Assembly



PARTS

Coupling only:

690L Coupling

690R Coupling

690T Coupling



ACCESSORIES

Optional Accessories:

- 14014 Wear Gage (2 1/8 in.): To determine hook wear limits.
- 14026 Latch Gage: To determine latch gap limit.
- 507 Bolt Kit: Four 3/4-10 x 2 3/4 in. grade-8 bolts and 3/4-10 grade-C locknuts.

294 BOLT 1-YEAR SERVICE LIFE

! WARNING !

All 294 bolts are considered a serviceable part and cannot surpass 1-year of use. After 1-year of vehicle installation, it is considered out-of-service and no longer usable.

294 Bolt Service Life Instructions

The following applies to all Premier Model 690 couplings (690L, 690R, 690T)

For new 690 coupling or new/replaced 294 bolt: Record the date of installation.

<u>6-months after installation date</u>: Remove & inspect entire 294 bolt and look for fractures along entire length of bolt (preferably using dye penetrant or mag particle testing).

- If 294 bolt looks good: Re-install & continue to use for another 6-months.
- If fractured DO NOT USE: Contact Premier Mfg Co.

1-year after installation date (regardless of service duty): Remove & replace with new 294 bolt.

<u>WARNING</u>: If, at any time, the 690 Coupling is bound-up (jackknifed), then the 294 Bolt MUST be replaced immediately! Until replacement, the 690 Coupling is not to be used. Furthermore, carefully inspect the 690 Coupling; drawbar; drawbar eye; front end assembly; and tail board for damage.

INSTALLATION

The 690 Coupling is only to be used and maintained with Premier parts listed in the Replacement Part Information section. Any substitution or use of non-Premier parts in a 690 Coupling will VOID ALL PRODUCT WARRANTY.

Installation Procedure:

- The 690 Coupling must be installed to comply with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. Specifically, Section 393.70, Paragraph C: "Towing of Full Trailers." Prior to install or operation, consult with local, State and Federal agencies, as there may be additional applicable laws governing installation and use of this product.
- Make certain that the cross member the 690 Coupling is to be mounted on is of sufficient strength to withstand the load rating of the coupling.
- 3. Using the Standard Installation Drawing, measure and layout the cross member and then drill the holes for the mounting bolts.

- 4. Mount the 690 Coupling using either Premier's 507 Bolt Kit and provided torque value, or four other 3/4" grade-8 bolts and grade-C locknuts. Only use new fasteners when mounting couplings or drawbar eyes and torque to SAE specifications.
- 5. Once mounted, check the latch components for proper operation and clearances (see the Inspection/Operation/Maintenance section for opening and closing the latch). If the operation of the latch components is sticky, lubricate all rotation points with a light penetrating oil. Work the latch assembly several times to distribute the lubricant evenly and remove any excess with a rag. Do not apply lubricant to the pintle/ hook or saddle area of the 690 Coupling.
- An "IMPORTANT WARNINGS!" sticker was enclosed. This must be attached to the coupling or cross member and be visible for the end user to read.

INSPECTION / OPERATION / MAINTENANCE

Inspection and Maintenance:

- Visually inspect the coupling body and latch components for cracks, impact damage and/ or deformation before each and every use. Do NOT use if any of these conditions exist.
- 2. Check the gap between the top of the 692 Hook and the nearest adjacent surface of the coupling body before each and every use. Pull the hook out, away from the coupling, to remove any free play in the coupling and measure the gap. A gap of 3/8" or more means the coupling must be taken out of service and repaired or replaced.
- If the wear area on the 692 Hook has worn 20% or more from its original cross-section, the coupling is considered out-of-service and must NOT be used.
- 4. Lubrication of the latch components must be performed at 90-day intervals or sooner

- depending on the operating environment. Lubricate the latch components with a spraytype lubricant to evenly coat all rotation points. Rotate each latch component several times to evenly distribute the lubricant.
- 5. Do not apply lubricant anywhere on the 692 Hook except for in its bolt hole. Remove any excess lubricant with a rag.
- Never weld on any Premier part in order to repair damaged or worn areas. Field and/or shop welds are inadequate and may further weaken the coupling.
- 7. WARNING: Other inspection and maintenance procedures are also required prior to the operation of combination vehicles. Consult and follow all Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations as well as local, state and federal quidelines.

Operation:

<u>OPENING Coupling Latch</u>: (See specific model of coupling for proper opening instructions)

690L:

- 1. Remove the 581EF Clip from the 691 Handle.
- 2. Grasp the 691 Handle and firmly push it inward toward the coupling body.
- 3. While holding the 691 Handle in this position, rotate the handle clockwise until full rotational travel is reached and then release the handle.
- 4. If opening the coupling with a drawbar eye attached, the coupling is now ready to uncouple and the drawbar eye should pull freely from the 692 Hook.
- 5. If opening the coupling without a drawbar eye being coupled to it, follow the above steps 1-3. The 692 Hook should freely rotate down, but is NOT in the fully open position. Next, grasp the top of the 692 Hook and pull out and down until full rotational travel is reached. The coupling's latching mechanism will snap into the fully open position.
- 6. The 690L Coupling is now fully open and ready to be coupled.

690R:

- 1. Remove the 581EF Clip from the 691CR Bushing located on the opposite side of the coupling body as the 691 Handle grip.
- 2. Grasp the 691 Handle and firmly pull it outward away from the coupling body.
- 3. While holding the 691 Handle in this position, rotate the handle counter-clockwise until full rotational travel is reached and then release the handle.
- 4. If opening the coupling with a drawbar eye attached, the coupling is now ready to uncouple and the

- drawbar eye should pull freely from the 692 Hook.
- 5. If opening the coupling without a drawbar eye being coupled to it, follow the above steps 1-3. The 692 Hook should freely rotate down, but is NOT in the fully open position. Next, grasp the top of the 692 Hook and pull out and down until full rotational travel is reached. The coupling's latching mechanism will snap into the fully open position.
- 6. The 690R Coupling is now fully open and ready to be coupled.

690T:

- 1. While facing the mounted 690T coupling, remove the 581EF Clip from the 691 CR Bushing located near the locknut on the left side of the coupling body
- 2. Grasp the tip of the 691T Handle and firmly raise it directly upward until motion stops. The locknut end (left side) of the 691W Handle Lug and Shaft will slightly retract into the coupling body.
- 3. While holding the 691T Handle in this position, pull the handle toward you, rotating the handle counter-clockwise until full rotational travel is reached and then release the handle.
- 4. If opening the coupling with a drawbar eye attached, the coupling is now ready to uncouple and the drawbar eye should pull freely from the 692 Hook.
- 5. If opening the coupling without a drawbar eye being coupled to it, follow the above steps 1-3. The 692 Hook should freely rotate down, but is NOT in the fully open position. Next, grasp the top of the 692 Hook and pull out and down until full rotational travel is reached. The coupling's latching mechanism will snap into the fully open position.
- 6. The 690T Coupling is now fully open and ready to be coupled.



- <u>CLOSING Coupling Latch</u>: (See specific model of coupling for proper opening instructions)
- Verify that the 690 Coupling is in the FULLY OPEN POSITION prior to connecting to a drawbar eye. Follow the above, Opening Coupling Latch procedure, as the coupling will not properly close unless first being in the fully open position. To make certain the coupling is fully open, grasp the top of the 692 Hook and pull out and down until full rotational travel is reached.
- 2. The 690 Coupling is designed to close and latch automatically. Carefully align the drawbar eye with the coupling opening and slowly back the vehicle into the drawbar eye. As the drawbar eye engages the 692 Hook, the hook will rotate upward and automatically latch closed. AUTOMATIC LATCHING DOES NOT ALWAYS OCCUR. VERIFY THE 690 COUPLING HAS BEEN LATCHED PRIOR TO TOWING.

690L:

- The 691 Handle should be rotated back to the latched closed position and the ring groove on the handle should now be exposed near the handle grip.
- 4. Place the 581EF Clip over the exposed ring groove on the 691 Handle. If the ring groove is not exposed enough for the clip to fit, the 690L Coupling is not locked closed. Do not operate the coupling without the clip securely residing in the groove.
- 5. This product is designed to be operated within its free rotation limits. It is the responsibility of the vehicle designer/end user to ensure that these limits are not exceeded (do not bind-up/jackknife). If, at any time, the 690L Coupling is bound-up (jackknifed), then the 294 Bolt must be replaced immediately! Until replacement, the coupling is not to be used. Furthermore, carefully inspect the 690L Coupling, drawbar, drawbar eye, front end assembly and tail board for damage.
- WARNING: Prior to towing, make certain that adequately rated safety chains have been properly connected.

690R:

3. The 691 Handle should be rotated back to the latched closed position and the ring groove on the 691CR Bushing should now be exposed near the

- locknut on the opposite side of the coupling body as the handle.
- 4. Place the 581EF Clip over the exposed ring groove on the 691CR Bushing. If the ring groove is not exposed enough for the clip to fit, the 690R Coupling is not locked closed. Do not operate the coupling without the clip securely residing in the groove.
- 5. This product is designed to be operated within its free rotation limits. It is the responsibility of the vehicle designer/end user to ensure that these limits are not exceeded (do not bind-up/jackknife). If, at any time, the 690R Coupling is bound-up (jackknifed), then the 294 Bolt must be replaced immediately! Until replacement, the coupling is not to be used. Furthermore, carefully inspect the 690R Coupling, drawbar, drawbar eye, front end assembly and tail board for damage.
- WARNING: Prior to towing, make certain that adequately rated safety chains have been properly connected.

690T:

- 3. The 691T Handle should be rotated back to the latched closed position and the ring groove on the 691CR Bushing should now be exposed near the locknut on the opposite side of the coupling body as the handle.
- 4. Place the 581EF Clip over the exposed ring groove on the 691CR Bushing. If the ring groove is not exposed enough for the clip to fit, the 690T Coupling is not locked closed. Do not operate the coupling without the clip securely residing in the groove.
- 5. This product is designed to be operated within its free rotation limits. It is the responsibility of the vehicle designer/end user to ensure that these limits are not exceeded (do not bind-up/jackknife). If, at any time, the 690T Coupling is bound-up (jackknifed), then the 294 Bolt must be replaced immediately! Until replacement, the coupling is not to be used. Furthermore, carefully inspect the 690T Coupling, drawbar, drawbar eye, front end assembly and tail board for damage.
- WARNING: Prior to towing, make certain that adequately rated safety chains have been properly connected.

IMPORTANT GUIDELINES that apply to all Premier Non-Air Couplings

- Do not weld on any coupling assembly
- Always use Grade-8 fasteners properly torqued
- Do not apply lubricants to the coupling hook
- Clean & inspect coupling for damage & excessive wear prior to each and every use
- Lubricate all coupling components at a minimum of 90 day intervals
- Do not bind-up (Jackknife) any application as stresses can cause damage to products or components, resulting in failure and detachment of the trailer while in use



ATTENTION!

End Users must read and follow this information.

DISTRIBUTORS & OEM'S: Please ensure that your customers are made aware of the following information on this page.

- (1) VERIFY THAT BOTH COUPLING'S AND DRAWBAR EYE'S RATED CAPACITIES MEET YOUR APPLICATION(S) REQUIREMENTS.
- (2) DO NOT OVERLOAD COUPLING OR DRAWBAR EYE.
- (3) INSPECT COUPLING, LATCH AND DRAWBAR EYE FOR CRACKS, BENDING DAMAGE OR EXCESSIVE WEAR. **DO NOT USE IF ANY OF THESE CONDITIONS EXIST!**
- (4) CHECK FOR GAP BETWEEN CLOSED LATCH AND TOP OF HORN OR COUPLING BALL.

 DO NOT USE IF GAP IS 3/8 IN. OR MORE.
- (5) MAKE SURE COUPLING IS LATCHED AND THAT LATCH WILL NOT OPEN.
- (6) PRIOR TO USE, ALWAYS CONNECT SAFETY CHAINS OF ADEQUATE STRENGTH FOR LOAD(S) BEING TOWED.
- (7) DO NOT BIND-UP (JACKKNIFE) ANY
 APPLICATION AS STRESSES CAN CAUSE
 DAMAGE TO THE COUPLING, DRAWBAR EYE,
 OTHER COMPONENTS OR ANY COMBINATION
 OF THEM. JACKKNIFING MAY RESULT IN
 FAILURE OF PRODUCTS OR COMPONENTS,
 RESULTING IN DETACHMENT OF THE TRAILER
 WHILE IN USE.

- (8) DO NOT APPLY LUBRICANTS TO THE COUPLING HOOK OR DRAWBAR EYE LOOP, AS THEY CAN COVER UP POSSIBLE DAMAGE AND ACCELERATE WEAR.
- (9) ALWAYS ABIDE BY ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS GOVERNING SAFE AND PROPER TRANSPORTATION.
- (10) NEVER STRIKE ANY OF THESE COMPONENTS WITH A HAMMER OR ANY OTHER DEVICE.
- (11) ALWAYS VERIFY PROPER OPERATION
 OF LATCHING SYSTEM AND COUPLING
 COMPONENTS PRIOR TO DRIVE OFF.
- (12) NEVER USE A COUPLING THAT YOU DO NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND HOW TO PROPERLY OPERATE AND VERIFY SECURE LATCHING OF.
- (13) NEVER REPLACE ANY PART IN ANY OF PREMIER'S ASSEMBLIES WITH NON-PREMIER COMPONENTS. DOING SO WILL VOID ALL WARRANTY AND POTENTIALLY COMPROMISE THE UNIT'S INTEGRITY, WHICH COULD RESULT IN PROPERTY DAMAGE, SERIOUS INJURY, OR DEATH.

WARNING

This envelope contains important instructions AND MUST REMAIN ATTACHED TO THIS COUPLING. It may be removed only by the End User or by an Original Equipment Manufacturer who preserves this envelope and instructions and provides it to the end user.

PREMIER MANUFACTURING COMPANY The first name in quality couplings 800-255-5387 (503) 234-9202 www.premier-mfg.com

Model 690L/690R/690T Coupling

Installation, etc. Revised: 08/10

WARRANTY: We warrant all Premier products to be free from defects in material or workmanship for one year. We will repair or replace, at our option, any Premier product which our examination reveals to be defective, provided that the product is returned to our factory, at Tualatin, Oregon transportation prepaid, within one year of purchase by the first retail purchaser. Our warranty does not extend to products which have been subject to misuse, neglect, improper installation, maintenance or application, nor does our warranty extend to products which have been repaired or altered outside of Premier's facility unless the repair or alteration has been expressly authorized in writing by Premier. *This warranty is in lieu of all other warranties, express or implied, and excludes warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose and otherwise, and in no event will Premier be liable for incidental, special, contingent or consequential damages.*

DISCLAIMER: Although great care has been taken to ensure accurate information throughout this document, Premier Manufacturing Company must reserve the right to alter any information contained within. These changes include but are not limited to: Dimensional changes, load capacity and availability of any part or assembly.

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