

## Appendix 3

### Procedure for uncoupling a semi-trailer

#### Health and safety

During this exercise, it is essential to always apply these basic rules.

- § **Personal protective equipment required:** gloves, bib.
- § **Parking brake :** always make sure you have a parking brake applied before checking the vehicle.
- § **Getting on and off :**
  - ú Use the devices provided for this purpose, when available
  - ú Always be in front of the vehicle, with three (3) support points
  - ú Do not jump off the vehicle.
- § **Driving around the vehicle:**
  - ú Rotation, always face danger (e.g. traffic)
  - ú Do not cross under the semi-trailer.
- § **Safety reminder when reversing:**
  - ú Hazard lights must be activated
  - ú The left side window should be lowered.
- § **Supply hoses:** Disconnect hoses from the ground, when possible.
- § **Landing gears:** avoid quick movements that could cause back injuries.
- § **Fifth wheel mechanism:** have a stable position when unlocking to prevent falls and injuries

*These elements are part of the skill to be developed and will be checked regularly throughout your training.*

To carry out the coupling, your teacher makes sure that you know and master the knowledge related to the following task.

Task-related knowledge	Related knowledge mastered by the student and approved by the teacher
Distinction between types of air suspension deactivation mechanism and sure-lock mechanism	
Correct use of the landing gears: speeds, direction of rotation, positioning of the handle and its storage	
Always apply gloves when performing work outside the truck	
Safely gets on and off vehicles	
Compliance with the steps of the method and 90% verifications	

**Step 1: Parking and checking the semi-trailer**

**Step 2: Uncoupling**

**Step 3: Tractor Storage**

### Step 1: Parking and checking the trailer

Ø Park the equipment in a suitable location

Ø Apply the tractor parking brake and allow the red button to apply.

Ø Starting on the right of the vehicle, check:

Ø Tires and wheels

Ø Suspension element: balloons, supports, leaves and anchors

Ø Position lights

Ø Hazard lights

Ø Plate light

Ø Repeat the check for the applicable elements on the left side

Ø Purge tanks

Ø Deflate the suspension of the semi-trailer if necessary according to the company's instructions.

Ø Lower the landing gears by checking both sides

Ø Get back into the truck, press the yellow button for a few seconds to release the tension on the tractor produced by lowering the suspension of the semi-trailer if necessary and replace the tractor parking brakes before going back down.

Ø Disconnect hoses and electrical cord

Ø Unlock the fifth wheel mechanism



### Step 2: On board the tractor - Uncoupling

Ø Prepare to start the tractor: Remove the parking brake, engage the transmission in the lowest gear, locate the air pressure gauge of the tractor suspension as well as the control to lower the suspension pressure

Ø Lower the tractor suspension to the pressure that the tractor suspension has when not coupled (about 5 to 10 psi)

Ø Move forward to release the kingpin from the fifth wheel and stop when halfway down

Ø Check the stability of the semi-trailer

Ø Slowly move the tractor away by reactivating the tractor's air suspension

### Step 3: Tractor Storage

Ø Park the tractor in the appropriate place and turn off the engine

Ø Check the following

Ø Tires and wheels

Ø Suspension elements: balloons, slats and anchors

Ø Position lights

Ø Hazard lights

Ø Low beam headlamps

Ø Any other visible anomalies

Ø Purge tanks

Ø Turn off all lights

Ø Close windows and lock doors