Troubleshooting Guide
FW35 (XA-351) Fifth Wheel

Before proceeding, verify that your fifth wheel top plate is a XA-351 model by following the 3 steps below:

1. YOKE SHAFT EXTENDS OUT OF THE FRONT OF THE FIFTH WHEEL

2. OPEN LOOP RELEASE HANDLE
   Bracket pin retained internally
   
   IF YOU HAVE THIS FIFTH WHEEL, REFER TO THE FW3500 (XA-3501) TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE.

3. CLOSED LOOP RELEASE HANDLE
   Bolt and nut retention for bracket pin
   TROUBLESHOOTING HINTS FOR THIS MODEL FIFTH WHEEL TOP PLATE ARE CONTAINED IN THIS SECTION.

Serial Number Tag Identification

For this troubleshooting section, the part number on the serial number tag should begin with one of the following:

- FW35
- XA-351
Troubleshooting Guide

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REBUILD KIT NUMBERS

Left Hand Release
RK-351-A-L (w/Automatic Secondary Lock)
RK-351-A-02-L (w/Manual Secondary Lock)

Right Hand Release
RK-351-A (w/Automatic Secondary Lock)
RK-351-A-02 (w/Manual Secondary Lock)
Troubleshooting Guide

PROBLEM: Difficult to uncouple from trailer

Cause
1. The secondary lock is not released.
2. The tractor may be putting pressure against locks (pulling locks tight against kingpin).
3. Tractor too low.
4. Rust or grime build-up on locking mechanism.
5. Bent kingpin, damaged upper coupler plate or improper use of “lube plate”.
6. Bent kingpin, damaged bolster plate, or improper user of “lube plate”.

Remedy
1. If manual secondary, pull manual secondary release handle our and up, hooking it on casting as shown in Figure 1.
2. Lock the trailer brakes, then back the tractor tight against the kingpin to relieve pressure on the locks. Lock the tractor brakes. Pull release handle.
3. Raise tractor suspension to proper ride height.
4. Spray a light lubricant or apply a lightweight grease on all moving parts including the cam plate, yoke, lock pins, and release handle and spring. Operate several times to work in the lubricant. Follow recommended lubrication schedule as detailed in SAF-HOLLAND Service Bulletin XL-SB036.
5. Check the kingpin and upper plate coupler as detailed in SAF-HOLLAND Service Bulletin XL-SB020. Remove any improperly installed or improperly specified lube plates. Refer to SAF-HOLLAND Service Bulletin XL-SB004 for lube plate warnings.
6. Check the kingpin with a SAF-HOLLAND TF-0100 kingpin gage and bolster plate with a 48” straight edge – repair or replace as required (see Figure 2 below, and Service Bulletin XL-SB020).

Figure 1

Figure 2
## Troubleshooting Guide

### PROBLEM: Difficult to uncouple from trailer  

**Cause**
1. Fifth wheel locks adjusted too tight.
2. Release handle will not stay out to allow uncoupling.
3. Other missing or damaged release system parts.
4. Casting bent/damaged at throat area restricting movement.

**Remedy**
1. Re-adjust fifth wheel locks following the procedures in the Lock Adjustment section of the maintenance instructions included with your fifth wheel (SAF-HOLLAND publication XL-FW-308).
2. Fifth wheel must be rebuilt. Obtain the proper rebuild kit for your model top plate.
3. Rebuild fifth wheel with the proper SAF-HOLLAND rebuild kit.
4. Replace entire fifth wheel.

### PROBLEM: Difficult to couple to trailer

**Cause**
1. The trailer may be too high; the kingpin is not entering the locks properly.
2. Locks are closed.

**Remedy**
1. Chock trailer wheels. Then using LOW GEAR, lower the trailer landing gear until the bolster plate is aligned with the fifth wheel, as shown in Figure 3.
2. Pull release handle all the way out (see Figure 4).

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**Figure 3**

- **OK**: Fifth wheel must lift trailer
- **Wrong**: Fifth wheel will not lift trailer

- **4” - 6”**: Fifth wheel tilted down, use low gear

**Figure 4**

- **OK**: Locks are open
- **Wrong**: Locks are closed
Troubleshooting Guide

PROBLEM:  Difficult to couple to trailer  continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause</th>
<th>Remedy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3. Attempting to couple too fast.</td>
<td>3. Slowly back the tractor up to the trailer. Pick up the trailer with the fifth wheel. STOP. Then continue backing until the fifth wheel locks firmly to the kingpin. Stopping helps prevent hitting the kingpin too hard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Excess accumulation of rust or grime is interfering with lock operation.</td>
<td>4. Thoroughly clean the fifth wheel then relubricate all moving parts including the cam plate, yoke, lock pins, and release handle and spring, as described in SAF-HOLLAND Service Bulletin XL-SB036. Operate several times to work in the lubricant. Follow recommended lubrication schedule as detailed in Service Bulletin XL-SB036.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Damaged, bent release handle.</td>
<td>5. Replace release handle using rebuild kit RK-08415-1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Damaged, bent yoke shaft from improper coupling (see Figure 4).</td>
<td>6. Inspect for kingpin damage (impact) (see Figure 5). If damaged, rebuild fifth wheel with the proper SAF-HOLLAND rebuild kit.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 5

Improper coupling attempt. Severely misaligned trailer kingpin and fifth wheel.
Troubleshooting Guide

PROBLEM: Difficult to couple to trailer continued

**Cause**

7. Bent kingpin, damaged upper coupler plate or improper use of “lube plate”.

**Remedy**


Check the kingpin with a Holland TF-0110 kingpin gage and bolster plate with a 48” straight edge – repair or replace as required (see Figure 6 below, and Service Bulletin XL-SB020).

**Figure 6**

![Figure 6 Image]

PROBLEM: Excessive movement in the lock jaws

**Cause**

1. Kingpin wear.

2. Fifth wheel out of adjustment.

3. Fifth wheel cannot be adjusted.

**Remedy**

1. Check kingpin for acceptable wear with SAF-HOLLAND TF-0110. Replace kingpin, if necessary.

2. Adjust fifth wheel following the procedures in the Lock Adjustment section of the maintenance instructions included with your fifth wheel (SAF-HOLLAND publication XL-FW308).

3. Rebuild fifth wheel using proper rebuild kit.
PROBLEM: Lock pins (XA-07292-T) raising

Cause
1. Kingpin too short, or improperly installed “lube plate”.
2. Too much vertical movement of jaw(s) in casting.

Remedy
2. Shim jaw(s) in casting using Part No. XB-05859-1 as shown in Figure 7.

NOTE: Do not shim tight. Maintain .040” to .060” free play between the lock jaw and the casting.

PROBLEM: Hard steering or binding

Cause
1. Lack of lubrication on fifth wheel top surface.
2. Warped trailer upper coupler plate.

Remedy
1. Lubricate top of fifth wheel plate using a high pressure, lithium-based grease. Follow recommended lubrication schedule as described in SAF-HOLLAND Service Bulletin XL-SB036.
2. Check upper coupler plate for flatness. Replace if necessary. (Refer to SAF-HOLLAND Service Bulletin XL-SB020 for additional information on upper coupler plate specifications.)
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**MODELS EQUIPPED WITH MANUAL SECONDARY LOCK**

**BRACKET COMPONENTS (NOT INCLUDED IN REBUILD KIT)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>PART NO.</th>
<th>NO. REQ.</th>
<th>PART NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>XA-07292-1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lock pin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>XB-07398</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Retaining ring</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>XA-07296</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lock jaw set</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>XB-07628</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Extension spring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>XB-HNH-34-F</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Locknut (3/4&quot;-16)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>XB-PW-1316-112</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Washer (1-1/2&quot; O.D. x 13/16&quot; I.D.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>XB-1127</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rubber washer</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>XB-02312</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lock adjustment tag</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>AX-07150-L</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cam plate (left-hand)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>XB-07150-R</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cam plate (right-hand)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>XB-T-69-A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Locknut (1/2&quot;-20) (2 add'l. req'd. for brackets)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>AX-07151-1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Release handle (universal for both left and right)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>XB-07291</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Compression spring</td>
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<td>14L</td>
<td>XA-07295</td>
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<td>Yoke</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>XB-2083</td>
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<td>Hex head cap screw (1/2&quot;-20 x 1-3/4&quot;)</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>XB-08559</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Washer (1-3/4&quot; O.D. x 9/16&quot; I.D.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>AX-1029</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Roller (1/2&quot; I.D.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>XB-CX-58-F-134</td>
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<td>Hex head cap screw (5/8&quot;-18 x 1-3/4&quot;)</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>XB-07431</td>
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<td>Washer (2-5/8&quot; x 21/32&quot;)</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>AX-1507</td>
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<td>Roller (5/8&quot; I.D.)</td>
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**ACCESSORIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
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<th>PART NO.</th>
<th>NO. REQ.</th>
<th>PART NAME</th>
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<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>XA-3542-M</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Manual secondary lock release handle</td>
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<td>37</td>
<td>XA-3528</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Manual secondary lock</td>
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<td>38</td>
<td>XE-06356</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bracket pin</td>
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<td>39</td>
<td>TF-TLN-5001</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kingpin lock test (New)</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>TF-TLN-1000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kingpin lock test (Old)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** FOR RIGHT HAND RELEASE.

* Parts not included in rebuild kit (available from your local Holland distributor.)
** Parts included in rebuild kits RK-351-A-02 and RK-351-A-02.