

Maintaining the Trailer's Galvanized Surface

Your SEA – LINK (Special Trailer) is coated in a galvanized finish, where the trailer frame has undergone a **metallurgical** process that **Bonds molten zinc** to the trailer and associated parts. The **outer zinc** covering forms a sacrificial barrier that protects the **base** steel, very similar to anodes provided on modern marine engines. The environment in which the trailer is used, stored and maintained **determines how long the protective coating lasts**. In areas of high humidity, high salinity or poor water quality, it is common for the zinc finish to deteriorate very quickly, and a higher level of care is required to slow the deterioration of the zinc.

Trailers must be washed thoroughly after use and stored dry in a well-ventilated area. It is probable that salt residues will drop onto your trailer from the hull above whilst in storage. If this occurs, please wash as soon as practical to prevent the salt chlorides from **attacking** the zinc surface.

In the presences of moisture, as the **zinc coating** ages, white powder **formations (zinc oxide)** may be evident on the galvanized components. This is a normal **reaction of** the zinc **coating** that forms a layer over the zinc to protect itself from the elements. This **can be** evident in the low drainage points of the trailer, where salt residues collect. If this cosmetic build-up **appearance is a concern, it can be removed with a wire brush but it is best left alone**. With regular **maintenance** of your trailer the **life of the** zinc coating can be enhanced for many years.

Couplings

Connect the coupling to tow ball on the car by placing the coupling directly over the ball, pull up the handle and let the coupling slide down over the ball, then release the handle letting it bottom out on the top of the coupling.

Do not get into the habit of using the spring loaded catch to hold the plunger in the up position when connecting to your vehicle. Around 80% of trailer users drive off with the coupling in this position. It then can come off the ball, drop down on to the trailer's safety chain and do a lot of damage to the towing vehicle (not to mention the safety aspect of the situation).

The mechanical, hydraulic and standard couplings need to be greased every six months or when there is no grease present on the shafts.

Safety Chain

Connect the safety chain to the vehicle with the "D" shackle. Do not use a padlock between the safety chain and the car while traveling.

Jockey Wheels

If your trailer is fitted with a Swing-Up jockey wheel be careful to ensure that the two locking pins are in place before winding wheel down.

When maneuvering the trailer on either concrete, lawn or a soft surface, the Jockey wheel should be in its lowest possible position.

If you maneuver the trailer with the jockey wheel in its full-extended position you will strain and damage the jockey wheel. Bent or strained jockey wheels are not covered by warranty.

Axle and Springs

Special Trailers recommends that the suspension components be inspected at least twice yearly for any evidence of loose u-bolts, bolts and corrosion or breakage of the leaf springs.

Wheel Bearings

Should be checked and repacked or replaced every 6 months depending on trailer use. For a quick check, jack up the wheel and give it a wobble from side to side. If there is slack in the bearing you will need to retighten the axle hex nut, then give the wheel a spin, if noisy then change the bearings. If you un-assemble the hub and there is evidence of water this will also render the bearings unfit for use and require replacement.

Wheel Bearing Protectors

Check bearing protectors for sufficient grease with your finger. Press on the grease nipple. If spongy they have sufficient grease. If firm then they need to be re-greased. Use a standard grease gun with high temperature wheel bearing grease and give it about two pumps. It then should have a spongy feel. Do not overfill, otherwise when traveling grease will spread over the front of your wheel.

Brakes

The braking system used on your Special Trailers would generally be a disc brake over-ride system, mechanical (cable operated). Your mechanical calipers and components are normally fully galvanized using stainless steel bushes and High Tensile Zinc bolts please ensure these are greased regularly. The system is reasonably easy to maintain and providing you wash your calipers, discs and cable down straight after a day's boating it will provide a long life. Mechanical brake cables generally last some time, however at any sign of deterioration, the cable needs to be replaced. To adjust the tension on mechanical brakes, boat, motor and all equipment needs to be on the trailer. The cable can then be adjusted at the front pulley and the adjustment bolt on the caliper. Remember to leave enough slack in the cable to allow for the flex in the trailer while underway.

Tandem Trailers with a gross mass over two tones are fitted with a Hydraulic Electric braking system and disc braked on all wheels. This system needs an in-car electronic electric brake controller to operate it correctly and fitted by an auto electrician. The Brake unit must be kept clear of submersing and high pressure cleaners at all times. A separate manual and wiring diagram comes with the trailer at the time of delivery. Hydraulic Brake Calipers need to be serviced at regular intervals as salt-water deposits can build up

Tyres

Ensure correct tyre pressures are maintained; regular checks for the correct inflation pressure and uneven tyre wear should be carried out. A boat trailer's wheel camber is fixed and cannot be adjusted like a motor vehicle. A trailer's axle can bow in the centre between 10mm to 15mm and still be in tolerance.

It is normal for trailers to have a slight run out of wheel camber which in most cases is not noticeable by eye but if the trailer is overloaded or does not have the right inflation pressure in the tyres, rapid wear will occur on the inside edge of the tyres. We recommend for maximum tyre life under normal use, that the tyres be rotated on the rim every 12 months or 6 months for heavy use.

If a tandem trailer has excessive side wear on its front tyres only, this has been caused by the trailer not being towed level with the vehicle and has transferred most of the trailer's weight to the front wheels. The Inside edge, tyre wear is not covered by warranty

Trailer Frame Drainage

It is imperative that the drain holes throughout the trailer frame are kept clear and checked on a regular basis. This allows for drainage of any trapped water to exit the frame.

Trailer Lighting

Lighting and wiring need a 6 month inspection to ensure that there are no cracked lenses, or corrosion in the wiring, and that all functions of the lamp are working. Trailers with junction boxes fitted need to be inspected to ensure that no water builds up inside as they are not designed to be submersed

Hand Winch

The winches selected for use on your trailer are of high quality, particularly chosen for the trailer load capacity. However, do not overload your winch; use it only for the application it has been supplied for on normal ramp conditions

Securing your Boat to the Trailer

Please be aware that the winch is not intended as the sole device to hold the boat on the trailer and that a Suitable Rated Ratchet Tie Down Strap be Secured At the rear of the boat and that the boat is chained down to the winch post base plate where a loop is provided

SPECIAL TRAILERS PTY LTD (ABN 78 088 165 824) TRAILER WARRANTY

Two Year Frame Warranty

Special Trailers warrants each boat trailer frame and its fabricated steel components including the ball coupling and wheels (but excluding tyres and tubes) to be free of structural or welding defects for a period of two years from the date of Manufacture.

One Year Warranty

Special Trailers warrants the hot dipped galvanized finished surface of each boat trailer and its components for a period of one year from the date of manufacture on the compliance plate against red rust.

Six Months Warranty

Special Trailers provides a general Warranty as to fitness for purpose for a period of six months from the date of Manufacture with regard to Trailer Lighting, Hydraulic braking equipment, axle, wheel bearings (excluding water entry), seals, tyres (excluding tyre wear), springs, calipers, hubs and jockey wheels.

Obligations of Special Trailers

Special Trailers shall repair or replace any item covered by the Warranties above, within reasonable time after the trailer is returned to Special Trailers office, authorized distributor or dealer at owner's expense.

Conditions/Exclusions/Limitations

- The Warranties herein contained extend to the original purchaser only. They do not cover any person to whom a trailer is transferred. Exercise of any of the above Warranties is subject to delivery of the Trailer to Special Trailers and to proof of purchase and the date of manufacture (as to which Special Trailer's records shall be conclusive in the case of disagreement).
- This Warranty does not cover the cosmetic appearance of the galvanized surface of a trailer or its components (which change after a trailer leaves Special Trailer's factory). It does not extend to rust on painted and zinc coated surfaces, brake pads, winch cable, winch strap, rollers.
- Special Trailers reserve the right to make design changes in trailers built and/or sold at any time without incurring any obligation to make the same or similar changes to trailer previously built and/or sold by them.
- This Warranty shall not extend to any trailer which is found to have been used for any purpose other than that for which it was manufactured; which is found to have been overloaded, (i.e. in excess of the stated mass load on the trailer certification plate), which is altered or modified in any way, or which malfunctions due to prior damage, unreasonable and necessary maintenance.
- This Warranty will be negated by and Special Trailers will not bear any responsibility for any Warranty procedure or Change carried out without alteration by Special Trailers
- There shall be no implied or actual Warranty with respect to the manufacture of, or merchantability, or fitness for a particular purpose of any Special Trailers and Special Trailers shall not be liable for any transportation charges, or for any direct, special, incidental, consequential (including loss of profit) or other loss or damage, whether based in contract, or tort, or arising from breach of any Warranty or otherwise **PROVIDED THAT** Special Trailers acknowledges that this Warranty does not exclude or limit the application of any provision of any Statue (including the Trade Practices Act) where to do so would contravene the Statue or cause any part of this Agreement to be void ("Non-excludable Condition"). Special Trailer's total liability hereunder for a breach of any Non-excludable Condition (other than implied by Section 69 of the Trade Practices Act) is limited at its option to any one of supplying, repairing or replacing or paying the cost of supply, repairing or replacing a Trailer.
- **COMERCIAL AND OFF-ROAD USE:** Special Trailers Pty Ltd do not warrant trailers used commercially and/or off-road or warrant that Special Trailers are suitable for a particular commercial application.
- **ALL WARRANTYS MUST BE APPROVED BY SPECIAL TRAILERS PRIOR TO ANY WORK CARRIED OUT.**

OWNERS RESPONSIBILITY:

Special Trailers recommends that your trailer be serviced at least once a year by a qualified person, with brakes and bearing requiring six monthly service attention. Checks should be done on all your running gear including bearings, hubs, brakes, wheels and tyres. Wash your trailer down after each use and check that all bolts and nuts are tight. Regular maintenance will lengthen the life of the trailer and keep the trailer in safe operation.

THIS WARRANTY IS EXPRESSLY MADE IN LIEU OF ANY AND ALL OTHER WARRANTIES EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING THE WARRANTIES OF FITNESS AND MERCHANTABILITY FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE; AND IS LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE TERM SPECIFIED HEREIN, AND NO PERSON, FIRM OR ENTITY IS AUTHORISED TO MAKE ANY FURTHER OR ADDITIONAL WARRANTIES ON BEHALF OF SPECIAL TRAILERS PTY LTD.