

TRW Automotive
Commercial Steering Systems

Service Bulletin #TAS-108

Steering System Maintenance Schedule

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NOTE	Always follow the vehicle manufacturer's maintenance schedule. This publication is meant only to be a general guideline.
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This TRW Commercial Steering Division service bulletin has been written to help you repair commercial vehicles more efficiently. This bulletin should not replace your manuals; you should use them together. These materials are intended for use by properly trained, professional mechanics, NOT "Do-it-yourselfers". You should not try to diagnose or repair steering problems unless you have been trained, and have the right equipment, tools and know-how to perform the work correctly and safely.

Hydraulic System

Area	Frequency
Check oil level	Monthly
Change oil	Annually or every 100,000 miles*
Change oil filter (25 micrometer)	Annually or every 100,000 miles*
Inspect hoses & fittings	Lubrication Interval twice per year

Mechanical System

Component	Frequency	Reference
Adjust sector shaft preload	As required	See TRW TAS Service Manual
Replace trunnion bearing grease	Chassis lubrication interval or monthly	See TRW Bulletin #TAS-103
Replace input shaft seal grease	Twice per year	See TRW Bulletin #TAS-103
Check bolt torques (mounting bolts, pinch bolts at pitman arm and input shaft, mounting bracket if used)	Annually or every 100,000 miles*	
Lubricate column & u-joint	veh. mfr.	
Lubricate steering linkage	veh. mfr.	
Alignment	veh. mfr.	
Check tire inflation levels	veh. mfr.	
Check 5th Wheel lubrication, surface	veh. mfr.	
Check shock absorber effectivity	veh. mfr.	

*Vehicles operating under severe conditions (temperature extremes, exposure to salt or other corrosives, dust, etc. require more frequent maintenance.)

More Maintenance Tips

Never high pressure wash or steam clean a power steering gear while on or off the vehicle. Doing so could force contaminants inside the gear and cause it to malfunction.

Make sure vehicle wheel cut or clearances meet manufacturer's specifications, and make sure pitman arm timing marks are aligned properly to **prevent internal bottoming** of the steering gear.

Never use a torch to remove the pitman arm.

Investigate and immediately **correct the cause of any play, rattle, or shimmy** in any part of the steering system.

Make sure the steering column is aligned properly.

Encourage drivers to report any malfunctions or accidents that could have damaged steering components.

Do not attempt to weld any broken steering component. Replace the component with original equipment only.

Do not cold straighten, hot straighten, or bend any steering system component.

Always **clean off around the reservoir filler cap** before you remove it. Prevent dirt or other foreign matter from entering the hydraulic system.

Investigate and correct any external leaks, no matter how minor.

If you feel the vehicle is developing excessively **high hydraulic fluid temperatures**, consult with your vehicle manufacturer for recommendations.

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