



SERVICE NEWS LETTER

#013

DATE: JANUARY 31, 1991
TO: DEALER SERVICE MANAGERS
FROM: SERVICE OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT
RE: VEHICLE TOWING REQUIREMENTS
FILE: POLICY SECTION OF THE TECHNICAL BULLETIN BINDER

The following information is provided in each **OWNER'S MANUAL** for the express purpose of reducing damage to drive-train components, such as the JATCO and ALLISON automatic transmissions, due to improper towing techniques. When a failure requiring towing is reported to the dealer, this information should be given to the customer.

PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN BELOW.

WARNING:

When towing your vehicle, observe all state and local laws and regulations.

CAUTION:

Failure to disconnect the driveline or lift the driving wheels before pushing or towing the vehicle can cause serious transmission damage.

Towing the vehicle

If there is a need to tow your vehicle:

1. Unload your vehicle.
2. Turn the ignition key switch to the OFF position.
3. Release the parking brake.
4. Shift the transmission into NEUTRAL position.
5. Use a qualified towing service with a suitable lift and towing equipment.
6. When possible, tow the vehicle from the front.

CAUTION:

Do not raise the vehicle by its bumpers. Always use towing chains or jacks. When using towing chains, attach the chains to a structural member. When using a jack or jacks, place directly under a main structural member.

Towing with front axle off ground or with all wheels on ground

Tow the vehicle from the front. Remove either the propeller shaft or the rear axle shafts. If the rear axle shafts are removed, drain lubricant to prevent it leaking from the rear axle housing. Cover both ends of the rear axle housing to help keep out dirt. Attach chains to or place a jack or jacks directly under the main structural members of the vehicle.

CAUTION:

Do not attempt to secure the tow chains to the bumper. Lifting or towing by the bumper could result in the vehicle breaking loose and vehicle runaway. Attach the chains to the main structural members of the vehicle and use a bumper protector bar.

Towing with rear axle off ground

To tow the vehicle from the rear, secure the steering wheel so that the front wheels are straight. If this cannot be done, do not tow the vehicle from the rear. If the vehicle is equipped with the manual transmission, drain about 1-1/8 US pt(0.5 liters) of oil from the transmission so that it does not enter the clutch housing. Attach the chains to or place a jack or jacks directly under the main structural member of the vehicle.

To tow a vehicle with an inoperative rear axle, it is necessary to raise the rear wheels. If the transmission is inoperative, the propeller shaft must be removed or the rear wheels raised.