

Hitch Assembly Inspections

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As camping season approaches, there is typically an increase in personal use truck inspections. MPI is reminding permit holders that these inspections must be completed in accordance with prescribed standards. This applies to receiver hitches, pintle hitches, and fifth wheel assemblies.

Hitch assemblies must meet the following criteria:

- Vehicles less than 4,500 kg are inspected according to the [Vehicle Equipment, Safety and Inspections Regulation](#).
- Vehicles 4,500 kg and higher are inspected according to the [National Safety Code Standard 11 – Maintenance and Periodic Inspection Standards, section 10 – Coupling Devices](#).

Inspection of the lower portion of a fifth wheel assembly includes additional steps related to the latching mechanism, the lower coupler pivot, and the slider assembly. Inspection mechanics must perform a **complete** inspection before issuing a Certificate of Inspection for a light vehicle or a Periodic Mandatory Vehicle Inspection (PMVI) certificate and decal for those 4,500 kg and higher.

Permit holders are required to perform thorough and accurate inspections to ensure the integrity of the program. If you require assistance to apply inspection standards, it is your responsibility to contact Vehicle Safety for guidance or additional training. Vehicle Safety Officers are available Monday to Friday, 08:30 -16:30, excluding designated holidays, at 204-985-0920 (toll-free 1-866-323-0542). Please submit email inquiries to vsj-stationinfo@mpi.mb.ca.