

REAL

August 2022

Torque

Swinging Tailgates

Contact maintenance for any questions on 0800 80 80 69

The purpose of having a swinging tailgate is so that bulky loads can be tipped off without getting caught up in the normal top-hinged tailgate. It also allows for the loading of excavators and the like onto the deck.

The swinging tailgate is hinged at the top for normal operation and on the passenger's side to allow the tailgate to be swung around and securely latched to the outside of the bin. The standard for TR Group vehicles is to have two means of securing the tailgate. For example, a slide bolt or pin and a safety chain or latch to ensure they stay secure when open.



All swinging or opening objects on vehicles such as tailgates, doors and curtains are to be checked, closed and secured with locking pins (if required) before moving any equipment.

SAFETY NOTE:

Failure to correctly secure a swinging tailgate can result in the tailgate swinging open.

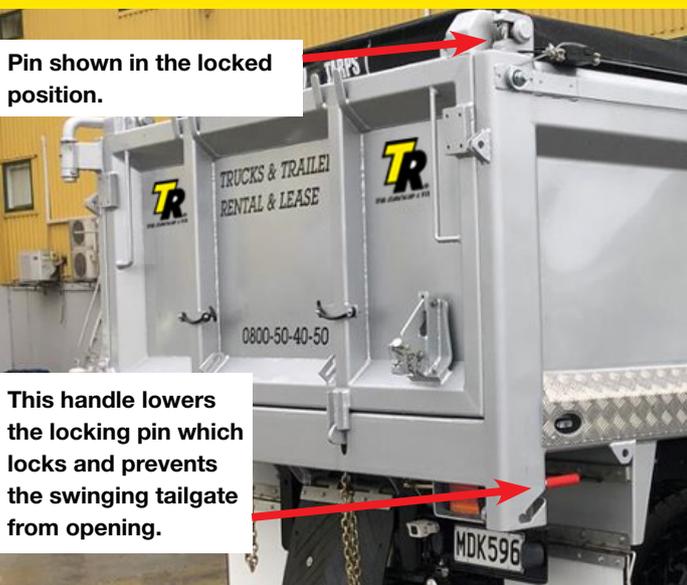


Swinging tail gate in the open position and securely locked with a latch.

What to look for when checking in or inspecting a tipper fitted with a swinging tailgate:

It is important to make sure that the tailgate opens freely, does not drop, and that the catches, pins, etc., operate easily.

Pin shown in the locked position.



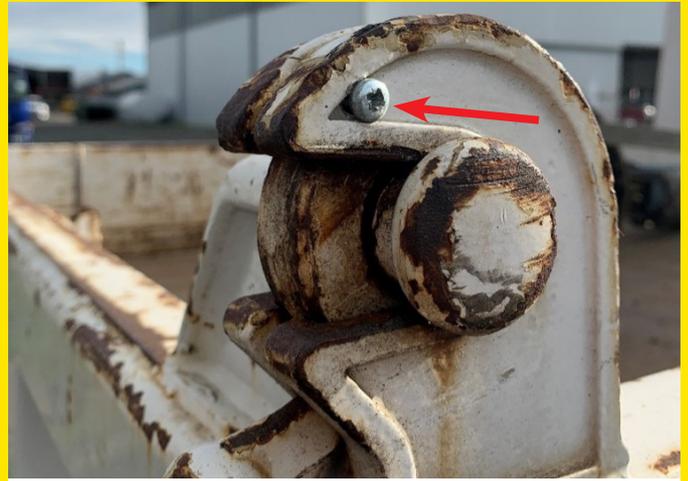
This handle lowers the locking pin which locks and prevents the swinging tailgate from opening.

A worn locking pin on the driver's side latch. The other latch components are probably worn and could be causing the tail door to drag/ bind and become hazardous.





Tail door latch not engaging fully and appears bent. It has probably been kicked to get it to lock fully. This will be frustrating for the operator and potentially hazardous.



NOTE: Some of our customers do not allow the use of swinging tailgates at all in their fleet. To prevent the swinging tail gate from being used, you may see a bolt inserted in the top latch.



Bent tail door causing the tailgate to bind and not close properly.

Below is another example of what to look for. In this example, the hinge mount is cracked; this has been caused because the tailgate is bent, causing the hinge mount to bind to the corner post.



Tips and Tricks



- ▶ Swinging tailgates have been identified as a potential hazard if not correctly operated.
- ▶ When open ensure the tail gate is secured correctly and before moving off make sure the tailgate is closed with the trips and latches correctly latched.
- ▶ The vehicle should not be driven with the tail door open as it will make the vehicle over width.
- ▶ Lubrication of the hinges is important for the smooth operation of the tailgate.
- ▶ Any damage to the tailgate, including latches and hinges, needs to be repaired to ensure safe and correct operation.

REAL Torque

August 2022

Contact maintenance for any questions on 0800 80 80 69



Making heavy vehicle fleet management easy for you