

# TECHTIPS



[www.hendrickson-intl.com](http://www.hendrickson-intl.com)

## THEY'RE PERMANENT...

### STEERTEK™ NXT Axle Kingpins – 8K to 14.6K Capacity

The Hendrickson AIRTEK® and SOFTEK® front suspension systems incorporate the STEERTEK™ NXT axle. The STEERTEK NXT axle uses a unique design to help make servicing the steering knuckle assembly easier for the technician.

Hendrickson's design for the STEERTEK NXT axle (8K to 14.6K capacity) features a two-piece knuckle assembly and kingpins that are permanently installed. That's right, **"They're permanent!"** The kingpins are cryogenically frozen, pressed into place, and remain permanent parts of the axle beam.

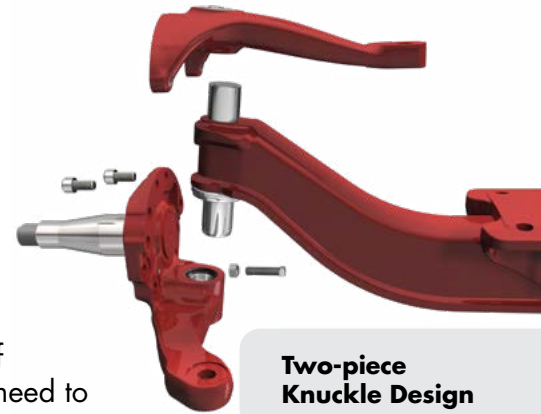
Replacing the kingpin bushings on typical steering knuckles can be a labor intensive procedure. Other manufacturers ordinarily have draw keys that require removal and the kingpins need to be driven out of the axle beam with a large hammer in order to remove the steering knuckles. Once removed from the axle, such one-piece knuckles are heavy to handle and difficult to service, not to mention the price of a kingpin service kit.

Hendrickson's two-piece knuckle service procedure for the kingpins is simply to remove the brake assemblies

**Remember: No need to beat on the kingpins... they're permanent!**

Refer to Hendrickson Technical Publications available online [www.hendrickson-intl.com](http://www.hendrickson-intl.com):  
17730-243, 17730-247, 17730-248, 17730-250, 17730-252, 17730-253, 17730-258,  
17730-259, 17730-312, 17730-343, 17730-345, 17730-346.

and the two socket head cap screws from the top of the steering knuckles, then the upper and lower knuckles separate for ease of service. There's no need to press out the kingpins.



**Two-piece Knuckle Design**

With the steering knuckles removed, polish the kingpin(s), if necessary, using a light lubricant and emery cloth of 220 grit or higher. Minor scratching and stains from the bushing are normal and acceptable.

After polishing, verify the diameter of the kingpin(s) is above the minimum diameter of 1.802". If the kingpin(s) measures:

- **More** than this minimum diameter, proceed with the kingpin bushing replacement procedure.
- **Below** this minimum diameter or is severely damaged from lack of proper lubrication, the axle beam assembly will require replacement.

Proper lubrication at regular intervals will help ensure good service life of the knuckle assemblies.





There is only one way to ensure the system's original performance ... ask for Hendrickson genuine parts by name.

**Kit No. 60961-628 Axle Set**



**STEERTEK NXT  
Kingpin Bushing &  
Thrust Bearings Service Kits**

**Contents** (quantities and components vary per kit)

- Upper Grease Cap Assembly
- Lower Grease Cap Assembly
- Kingpin Bushing
- Composite Thrust Bearing
- Roller Thrust Bearing
- Kingpin Seal
- 5/8" Socket Head Cap Screw
- Loctite Tube
- Grease Zerk

**Kit No. 60961-629 One Wheel End, Left Hand**



**Kit No. 60961-630 One Wheel End, Right Hand**



**ORIGINAL PARTS ORIGINAL FIT ORIGINAL PERFORMANCE**

Call Hendrickson at **1.866.755.5968** (toll-free) or **1.630.910.2800** for additional information.



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**TRUCK COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SYSTEMS**  
800 South Frontage Road  
Woodridge, IL 60517-4904 USA  
1.866.755.5968 (Toll-free U.S. and Canada)  
1.630.910.2800 (Outside U.S. and Canada)  
Fax 1.630.910.2899

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