

Service episode on trailer timer/ trailer with lift axle.

January 7, 2010 we had a truck in the shop from Steve Haney trucking with a Lubecore automated lubrication system installed in a 4 axle trailer with a lift axle.

The trailer was equipped with ABS on all axles, it was MANAC dump trailer.

The Greasing system was installed Aril 2009 at MANAC by Lubecore.

The truck had an in dash switch to operate the steering lift axle.

The centre wire in the 7 pin connector was used for the lift axle.

A separate power supply was installed to power the ABS with a separate connection between truck and trailer.

The customer complained that the trailer was not getting greased.

We found that the Trailer timer did not get constant power from the ABS system. Turns out that Lubecore Y connector was not used on this install and that power had been taken from the nose box of the trailer, **the installer was under the assumption that the ABS constant power was the same as the brake light signal** and connected the trailer timer to ground and brake light only. The result was a lot less lubrication than we would expect at 1.5 hour interval.

At a later service call another Lubecore technician changed it and connected to the tail lights instead and told the customer to drive with the tail light on, this was not done during daylight hours when most of their trucking takes places with as a result less grease.

Solution / Correction

We connected to the constant power available for the ABS at the second nose box installed exclusively to power the all wheel ABS system. The trailer timer now has constasnt power and the system is working as designed.

Option B ; Another solution would have been to use a 5 wire connection and install to ground, signal Left, Signal Right and brake lights.

Ideally we work with constant power if that is not available we go for option B

attached re a couple slides from a power point that explain the operation of the trailer timer.

We also have seen in the field from another customer that uses only the mandatory required lift axle following In this case the lift axle was operated from the cab again via a switch using again the centre pin on the 7 pin connector.

This pin is used to power the mandatory ABS system which means that the ABS is only getting power when the switch on the dash is in the on position. In this case the customer is not concerned about the ABS not working it is only there because it was mandatory, this however interrupts the power supply to the automated lubrication system.

Therefore, when working on multi axle trailers with lift axles make sure we understand our power supply to the trailer greasing system and trailer timer.