



Mitsubishi Fuso - Drive Shaft Servicing

Failure to correctly maintain and service truck drive shafts can potentially be very dangerous, not to mention expensive. Follow these simple guidelines on servicing your drive shafts and you should have years of trouble free motoring.

1 General

- a) Follow manufacturers' recommended service intervals and torque specifications.
- b) If replacing parts use only genuine parts. Drive shafts are one component where cutting corners with cheap inferior parts is simply not worth it.
- c) Make sure you or your staff are properly trained in correct drive shaft servicing techniques
- d) Mark drive shafts before removal to maintain balance and phasing on re-fitment.

2 Check for wear

- a) Do this before purge greasing.
- b) Know what manufacturers' recommended tolerances are.
- c) Use a dial test indicator to measure movement
- d) If in doubt replace worn parts.

3 Purge grease

- a) Use only the correct grease as specified by the manufacturer.
- b) Clean grease nipples before greasing. Replace if missing.
- c) Purge grease Spicer and Mitsubishi drive shaft joints. For other manufacturers follow manufacturers' recommended procedure.
- d) Ensure all four caps purge with fresh grease.
- e) Wipe away purged grease.

4 Use only genuine parts

- a) Use only genuine yokes, bearings and caps.
- b) Do not reuse Spicer straps or Bolts

5 Torque ALL bolts

- a) Refer to the manufacturers' manual for correct torque levels for your truck, don't guess.
- b) Make sure you have the correct tools to torque ALL bolts, not just the ones you can get at with conventional tools.

- c) "Norbar" torque wrenches and correct sized ring ends will enable all bolts to be tightened to the correct torque.

6 Other things to consider

- a) Make sure your truck has drive shaft safety hoops installed. It could save a life and it could save you a lot of money.
- b) Don't hang drive shafts on the universal joint during servicing.
- c) Do use straps or cradles to support the drive shaft during servicing, removal and re-fitment
- d) Workshop service managers and foremen - carry out random audits on drive shaft services.