

What if you can't connect the hydraulic hoses?



Your moving floor is hydraulically powered, i.e. the floor system moves by oil pressure. The oil is supplied by the hydraulic system mounted on your truck and flows to your moving floor system via the hydraulic couplings between the truck and the trailer.

This drivers' tip focuses specifically on what to do if you can't connect the hydraulic couplings. Of course, you have already checked that the couplings are in good condition and you make sure that couplings in poor condition are replaced immediately (see also [drivers' tip 10: hydraulic couplings](#)). A possible cause of the failure to connect the hydraulic hoses could be high back pressure in the system.

This situation often occurs when there are large differences between day and night temperatures, for example. Expansion increases the oil pressure in the coupling, which causes the problems. The Knapen Trailers specialists are happy to share some tips to help you avoid irritation, downtime and unnecessary costs.



Tip 1

Switch off the PTO and then switch on the floor:

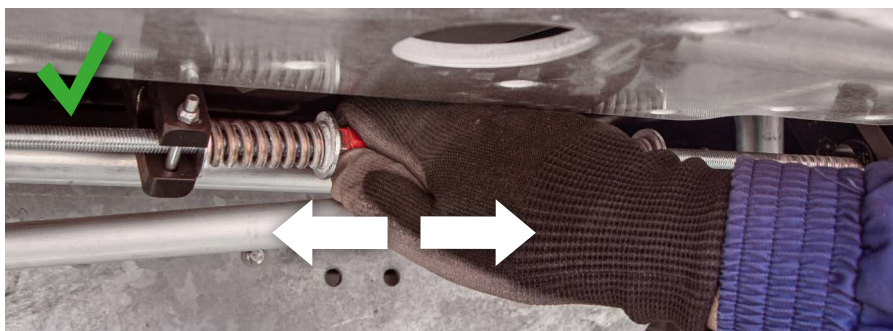
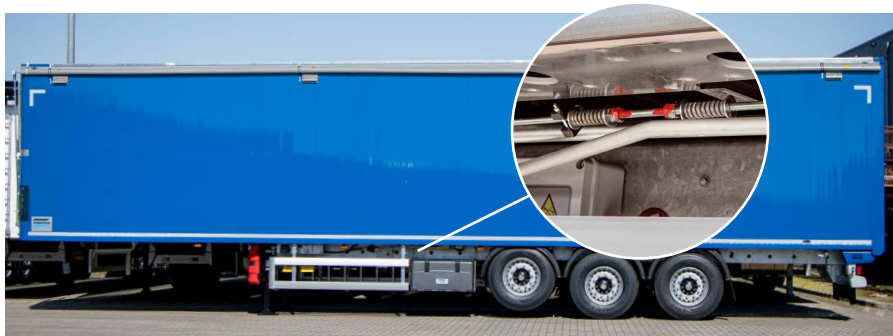
In practice, you can usually only connect one hose. Because the high oil pressure is keeping your coupling closed, lower the pressure first. If you can only connect one hose, operate the moving floor with the PTO switched off (1). Of course, the lighting should be on, after which you can activate the loading and unloading functions alternately (2). This distributes the pressure better across the entire system and reduces the pressure. Attention: The movement of the floor may be minimal. Then try to reconnect the second hydraulic hose.



Tip 2

Distribute the oil pressure manually

On the left-side of the Cargo Floor system is a threaded rod. If tip 1 does not solve the issue, you can move this threaded rod manually to reduce the oil pressure on the coupling. Make sure that the PTO is still switched off. Wear gloves and grasp the threaded rod between the two marked nuts. By moving the threaded rod backwards and forwards a few times, the oil pressure can be distributed in the system and reduced. Now try to connect the hydraulic hoses again. Attention; do not force the system using tools and avoid damaging the system at all times.

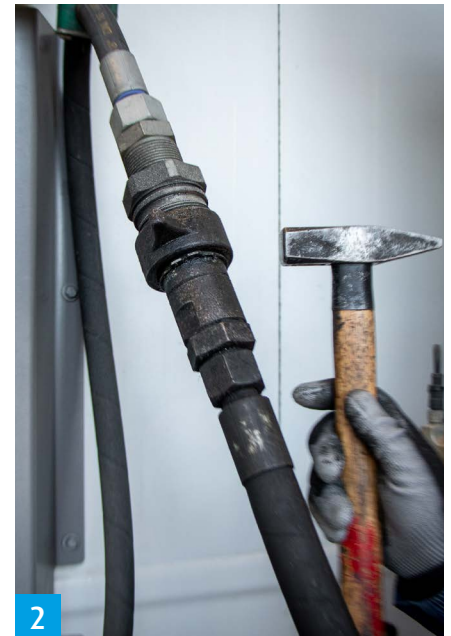
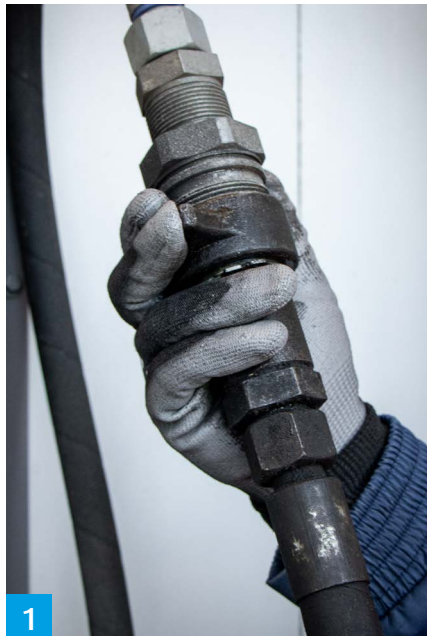




Tip 3

Reducing oil pressure with a swivel coupling

If back pressure has been created in your system and your trailer is equipped with swivel couplings, check that they are tight enough to be able to open the coupling properly from inside. Swivel couplings may appear to be tight enough, but could still have been loosened by the constant twisting movement between the truck and the trailer. First check that the swivel couplings are fully tightened (1). If your system still fails to function properly, reduce the pressure in the system as follows: First manually tighten the swivel coupling as much as possible, then tap the coupling with a hard object (2). If you can then turn the coupling, it is open from the inside and your hydraulic system will function properly again.



Tip 4

Loosen the coupling

If, after you have followed the steps above, connecting the hydraulic hoses correctly is still impossible (1), the only option is to carefully loosen the hydraulic coupling to release the pressure. Do this slowly so the oil pressure in the system is reduced gradually. Always use a drip tray to catch the released oil (2). Then tighten the coupling again and connect the hydraulic hoses.





Tip 5

Always test your system before driving away

Before driving away with your trailer, you should normally perform the necessary checks to avoid downtime in transit and on site. We advise you to also connect the hydraulic hoses and test your floor system in unloaded condition before driving away. Switch on the PTO and allow the floor to make a few loading and unloading movements to ensure that both functions are operating properly. This will help you to detect any problems at an early stage and prevent you having to leave the queue on site or miss the agreed time slot, with all the resulting additional costs and bother.



Extra tip: Combined hydraulics installation

Do you have a combined hydraulic installation on your truck, i.e. a hydraulics installation that is used for a moving floor trailer and a tipper? Always ensure the valve or switch is in the correct position so that the maximum oil pressure on your moving floor corresponds to the specified pressure of 250 Bar.



SPARE PARTS

Knapen Trailers recommends the use of Stucchi couplings. For personal advice and to order spare parts, please contact [your dealer](#) or [service partner](#).



BHYC010017
Stucchi coupling 3/4" Female



BHYC010018
Stucchi coupling 3/4" Male



BHYC010099
Dust cap for Stucchi coupling



BHYC010193
Dust cap

Tip: Print out these tips and hang them up in the company canteen for your colleagues to read.

Are you a driver on a moving floor trailer and do you have a useful tip for your colleagues? Then send your tip to marketing@knapen-trailers.nl and maybe your tip will be published in the next newsletter.

Subscribe via www.knapen-trailers.eu/newsletter and receive all new tips in your mailbox for free..