



Installation and Operating Instructions

Fitting · Operation · Maintenance · Repair

RINGFEDER®

Type 303 AUS / 303 AUS/RL

Range of application

These installation and operating instructions apply to automatic trailer coupling RINGFEDER® type 303 AUS. Type 303 AUS is approved to connect with drawbar eyes 50 according to DIN 74053b and drawbar eyes D50 in accordance with the ECE55-01 as well as drawbar eyes ISO 1102 and addition with heavy duty drawbar eyes 50 having a correspondingly high D-value

Installation

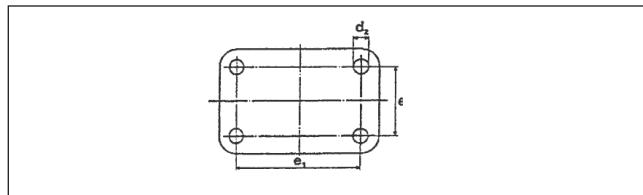
1. Remove castle nut (42).
2. Pull tension washer (40), rubber spring (36) and bar guide (38) from the drawbar (1).
3. Fit bar guide (38) contrary to the driving direction to the inner face of the rear drawbarm.

Caution: Max thickness of the drawbeam: 35 mm!

4. Tighten the bar guide (38) together with the drawbeam using 4 bolts grade 8.8 and 4 safety nuts grade 8. The heads of the screws have to be mounted on the side of the coupling head (outer side of the drawbeam). Under screws and nuts you have to use washers DIN 125, hardness min 200HV.

Bolt length: bolt shank
+ washer thickness
+ nut length
+ at least 2 threads

Flange Design e1xe2 (mm)	d2 (mm)	Thread (standard thread)	Tightening Torque	Wrench Size (mm)
160 x 100	Ø 21	M20	410 Nm	30



5. Fit tension washer (40) without any other components of the towing device to the bar guide (1) and fully tighten the castle nut (42) by hand. Measure the dimension X (see figures 1-4). Remove castle nut (42) and tension washer (40) again.
6. Fit the coupling head assembly including the front rubber spring (36) and thrust washer (37) to the bar guide (38). If required, regrease drawbar (1) and contract surfaces of thrust washer (37) and bar guide (38).

Caution: Never grease the rubber spring!

7. Fit the rear rubber spring (36) and tension washer (40).

Caution: Never grease the rubber spring!

8. Grease the contact surfaces of the castle nut (42) and tension washer (40). Screw on and tighten the castle nut (42) until the previously measured dimension X is reached again and secure by means of a cotter pin (43). Min. tightening torque of the castle nut M45x3: 700Nm using a wrench or nut with wrench size of 70 mm. To reach the dimension X and the next hole position for the cotter pin even higher tightening torques may be required.

Caution: Always tighten to the next hole position.

9. Fit and push on the protective plastic cap (44) carefully.
10. Straighten the coupling.
11. For a retro-fit please refer to the relevant statutory regulations.

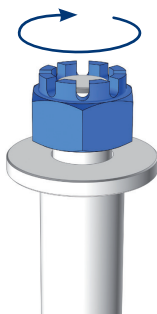


Fig. 1

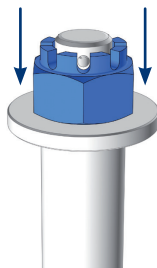


Fig. 2

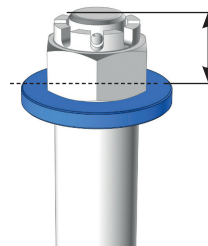


Fig. 3

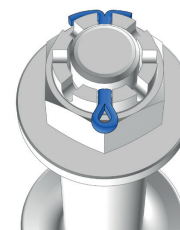
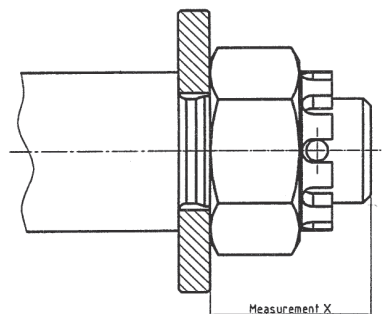


Fig. 4



Operation

1. The trailer coupling is closed and secured, resp. coupled that is to say the towing eye is inserted, the coupling bolt in its lower position, the safety device is engaged, the safety bar/bolt locates over the coupling bolt, the securing knob is in its internal engaged position.
2. **Releasing and opening of the trailer coupling:**
The coupling can only be opened when the coupling jaw is in the central position or in the lateral end position. To release the trailer coupling the securing knob is pulled out and turned ahead until it has reached its external engaged position. The trailer coupling now is released (Fig. 1). To open the coupling the hand lever is moved to its upper end position and then released. This will cause the coupling bolt to lift up and the towing eye may be extended. Due to the extension of the towing eye the coupling mechanism is again released and thus the coupling repeatedly closed and secured.
3. **Opening the trailer coupling to couple the towing eye:**
To open the trailer coupling proceed as described under item 2 above. The coupling lever is in its upper end position, the coupling is set ready for its next engagement. When inserting the towing eye, the coupling mechanism is released by lifting the coupling bolt. The coupling closes automatically, which means that the coupling bolt is inserted through the towing eye bush in its lower position in the guide bush. The safety device is engaged, that is to say that the safety bar/bolt locates over the coupling bolt, the securing knob is in its internal engaged position, the coupling is closed and secured, the towing eye is engaged (Fig. 2).

Check that after each coupling process the safety device is fully engaged. If the securing knob is not in its internal engaged position, the trailer coupling is unsecured and the whole procedure must be repeated.

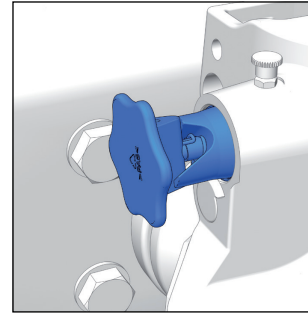


Fig. 1
Trailer coupling disengaged/uncoupled

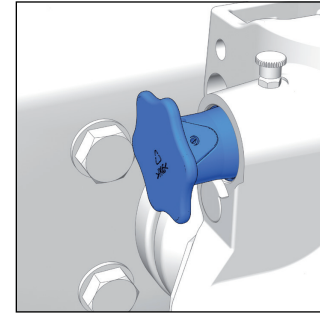


Fig. 2
Trailer coupling closed and secured

Service and maintenance

It is most important to always realize that the trailer coupling is a safety part and be handled as such. Regular service, maintenance and lubrication is a prerequisite for a safe and long-term troublefree service-life. The degree of loading and thus the wear of a trailer coupling also depend on the type of trailers, the loads, roads and climatic conditions.

The wear limits given under „safety check“ must not be fallen short of (for example coupling bolt diameter) nor exceeded (for example bore hole diameter bottom guide bush). If daily inspection of the vehicle in operation shows that the function of the trailer coupling has been impaired or strong signs of wear are sensible it is imperative that a safety check as described below be carried out immediately and, if necessary, the specific wearing parts be exchanged.

In order to limit the degree of wear on the coupling bolt and drawbar eye bush these components must always be kept clean and lubricated. In case of hard running of the coupling mechanism the coupling head has to be lubricated over the tapered grease nipple (5).

The trailer coupling should as far as possible not be cleaned by steam cleaner (high pressure cleaner). If this cannot be avoided the trailer coupling itself should be closed beforehand. After such cleaning the bearings of the coupling body should be greased with WD40 or a similar high-grade permanent lubricant. After that also the coupling has to be lubricated over the tapered grease nipple (5). Additionally oil has to be sprayed in through the holes in the end cap.

Safety check

On its safety check the trailer coupling is to be inspected as described below:

Functional check by repeatedly opening and closing the coupling.

1. Clean coupling bolt (23) and measure its smallest outside diameter in the bulged area.

Wear limit of coupling bolts (in accordance with ISO-standard)

50 mm bolt couplings: 46,5 mm

Should the wear limit be reached the coupling bolt and the pertaining locking springs (25), included in the delivery of the coupling bolt have to be replaced by new ones.

2. Measure axial play of the coupling bolt (23).
For this purpose close the trailer coupling and push the coupling bolt from underneath upward by means of an appropriate tool. If the axial play should exceed 5 mm the hand lever/locking lever assembly has to be replaced.

3. Control clearance of the coupling bolt (23) in the bottom guide bush (6). The maximum admissible clearance must not exceed 2,5 mm. If necessary, the coupling bolt plus pertaining locking springs (25) or the bottom guide bush, resp. or both have to be replaced by new ones.

Control max. diameter of the bottom guide bush (6) in the area of the coupling bolt seat e. g. by means of a slide gauge.

4. Control bearing clearance of the drawbar (1) in the drawbar guide (38). Should the clearance between drawbar shaft and bearing bush (39) exceed 1 mm the plastic bearing bushes (39) in the bar guide (38) have to be replaced.

Together with these also the rubber springs (36) should be replaced by new ones.

5. Control wear of the wear plate (7).

The wear plate should be kept cleanest possible and free from grease, consolidates dust and thereby the wear considerably increases due to the abrasive effect in the trailer operation. If the wear plate shows strong signs of wear and tear (4 mm and more) it has to be replaced by a new one.

6. Control axial play (longitudinal play) of the bearing.

For this purpose vigorously move the drawbar (not the guiding funnel of the mouth) back and forth in longitudinal direction using both hands. There must not be any axial play (longitudinal play) between the drawbar (1) and the bar guide (38), otherwise the rubber springs (36) have to be replaced.

When replacing the rubber springs, at the same time the plastic bearing bushes (39) in the bar guide (38) have to be exchanged as well.

7. Control pivot bearing of the coupling body (3) for longitudinal play. maximum admissible longitudinal play at the upper bearing: 1 mm

maximum admissible longitudinal play at the lower bearing: 1 mm

When the maximum admissible bearing clearances have been reached the trailer coupling must be repaired.

8. Control coupling body (3) for smooth running.

For this purpose move coupling body with trailer coupling closed to the right and to the left. In case of stiffness the bearings of the coupling body have to be roughly cleaned and greased with WD 40 or a similar high-grade permanent lubricant so that the coupling mouth is smoothly running. By the force of the return spring the coupling body must automatically return / recoil into its central position.

Important note:

To fix the castellated nut with a cotter pin attend to always using new, corrosion-resisting cotter pins. Moreover, when replacing component parts of the trailer coupling only original RINGFEDER spare parts are to be used, since otherwise a safe performance cannot be safeguarded and every guarantee ceases.

Explanation



Dismantling



Fitting



Maintenance Interval:
once per month



Attention:
Important Information



The following step is
ONLY applicable to
the coupling type
303 AUS/RL



The following step
is **NOT** applicable
to the coupling type
303 AUS/RL



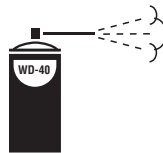
Tightening torque



Cleaning



Lubricate (Bechem
Berulub FR 16)



Lubricant
WD-40



Dispose the wear part
and do not reuse it



First cut off supply of
compressed air



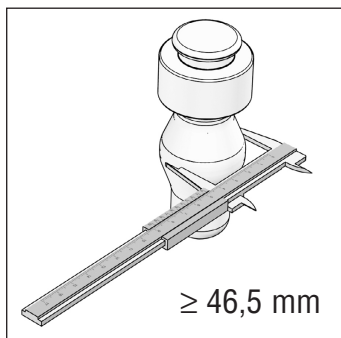
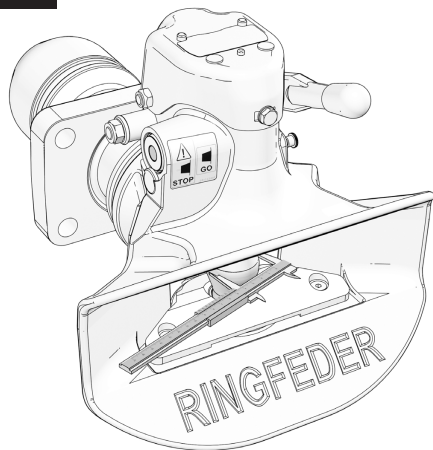
Visual control



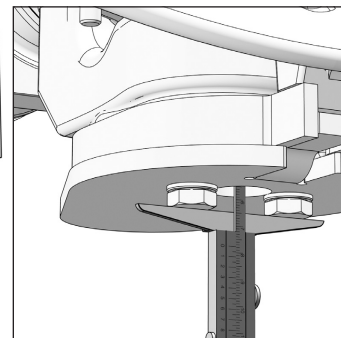
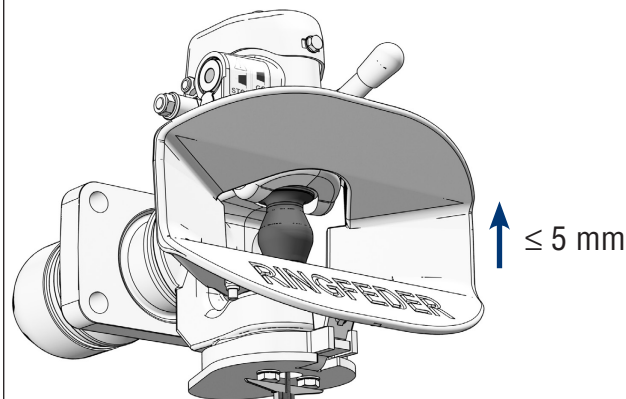
Coupling closed
and secured



1

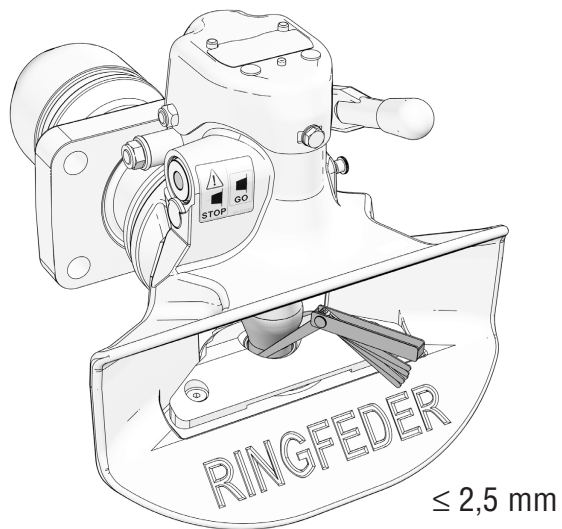


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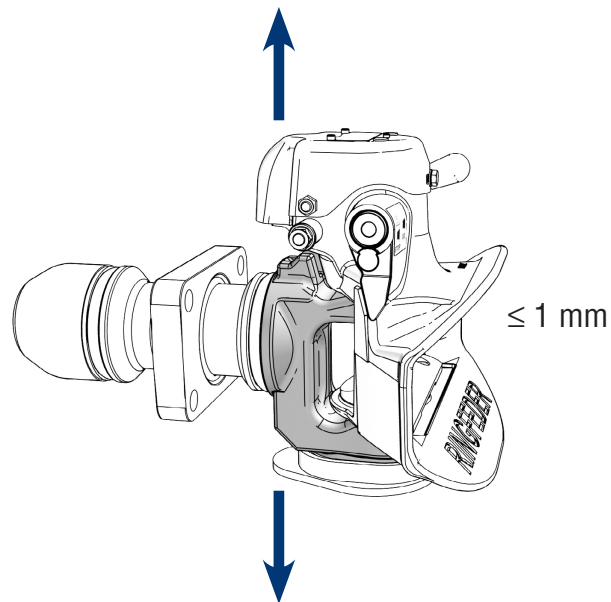


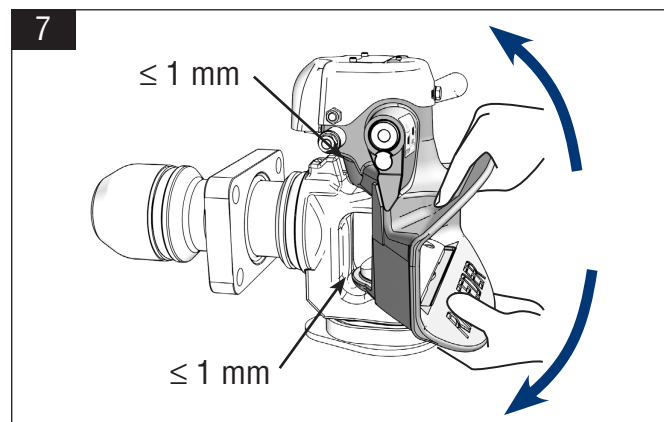
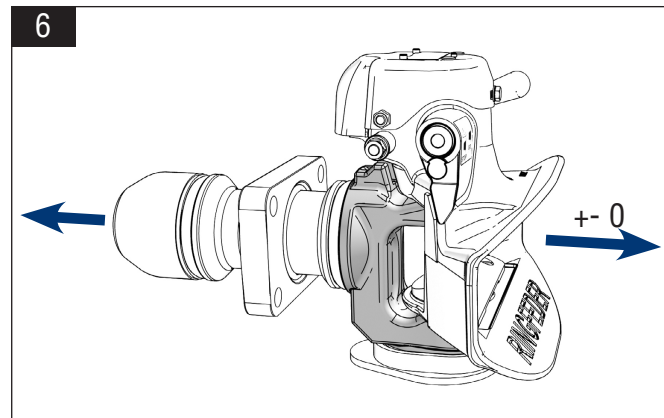
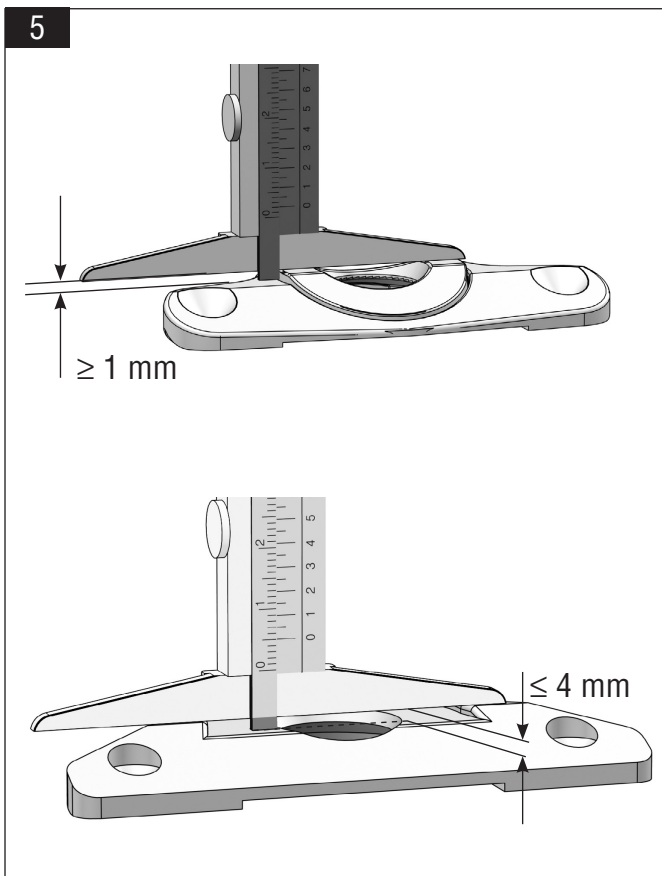


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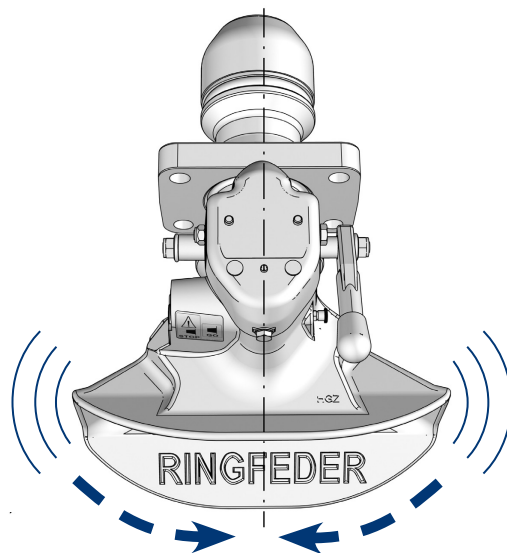
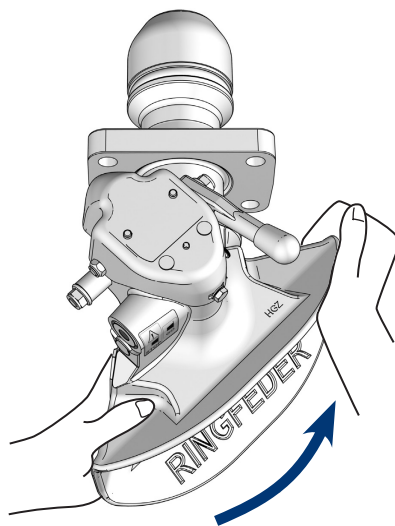
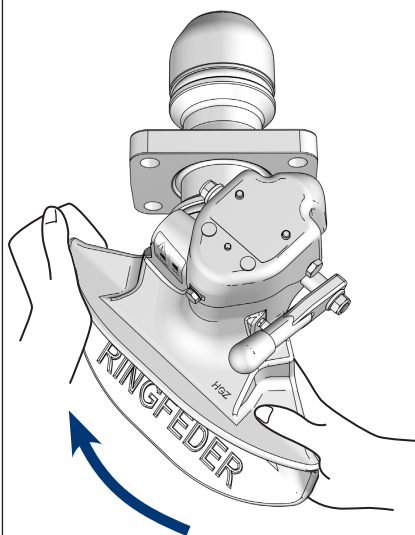
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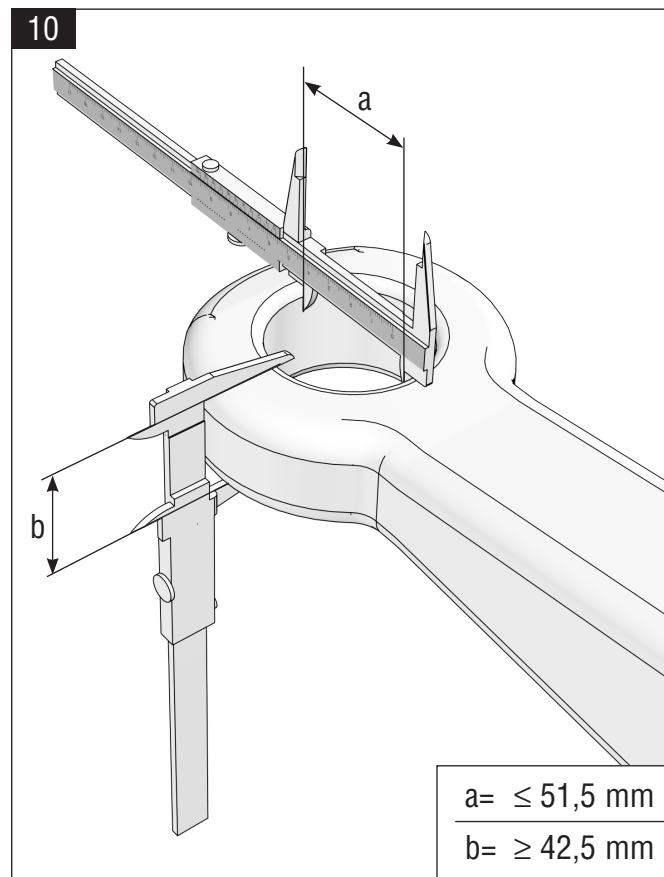
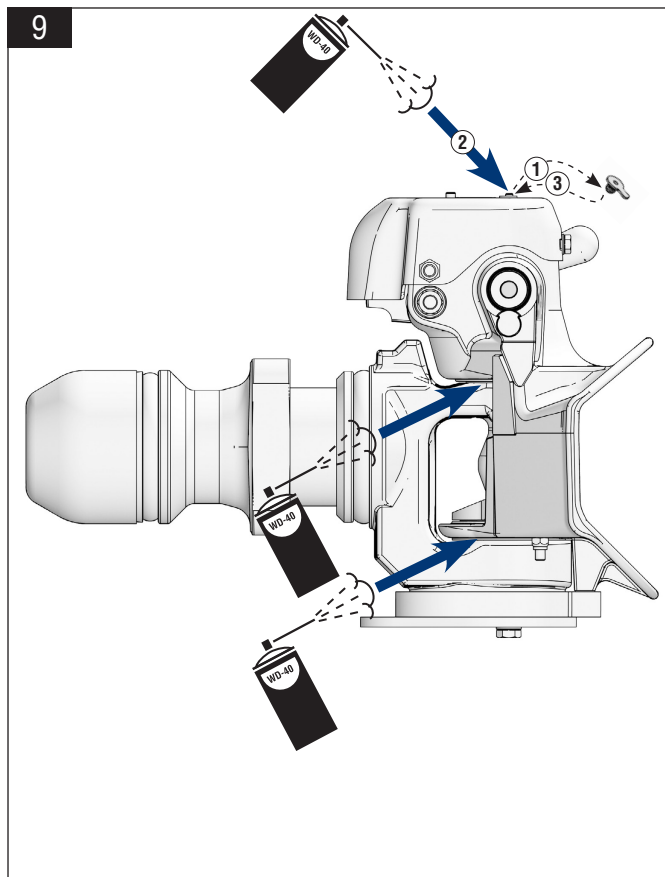


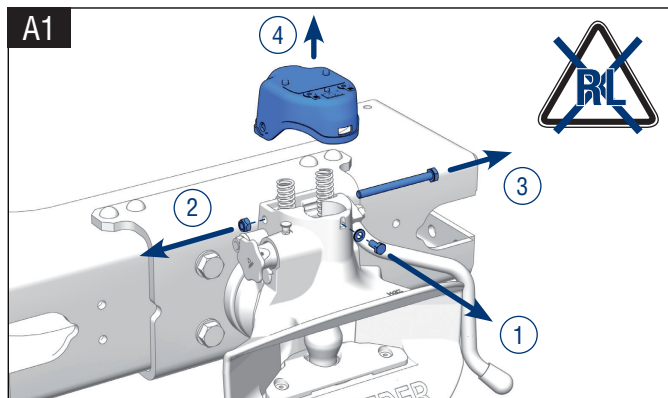




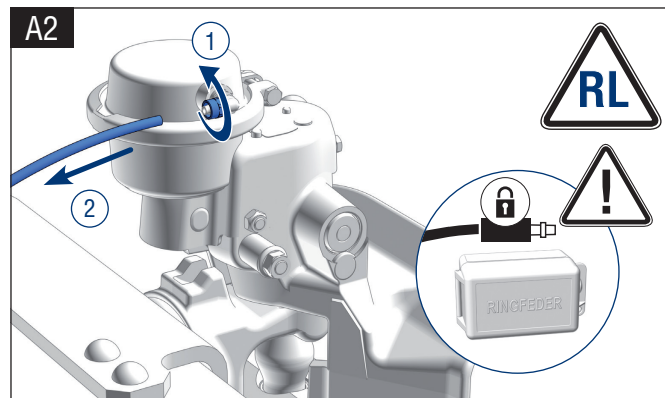
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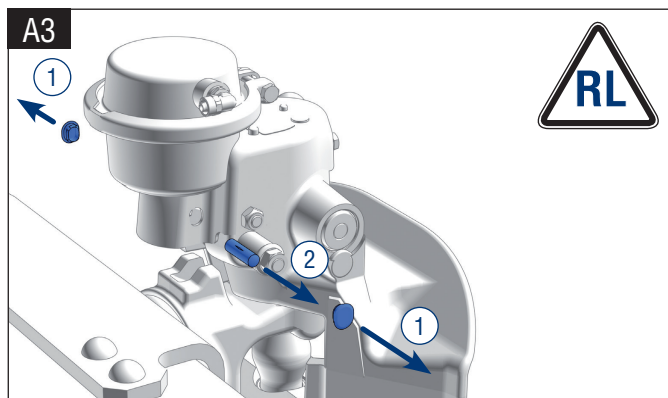




Dismantling of end cap

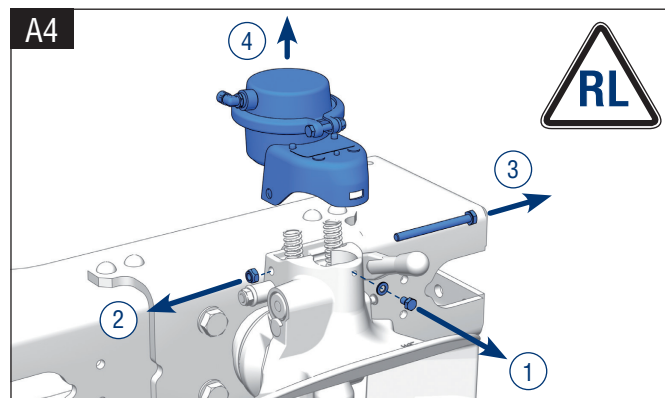


Release compressed air supply

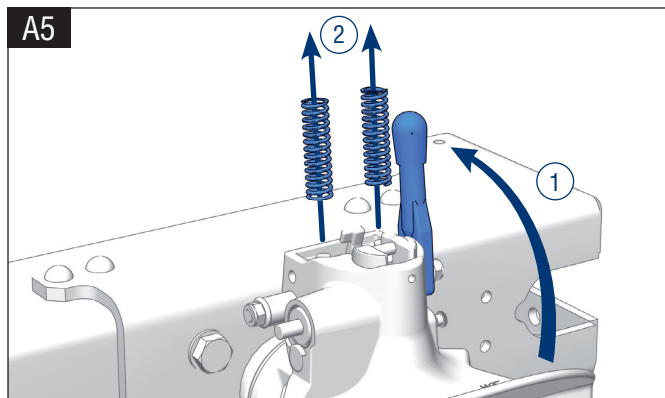


Drive out spiral pin

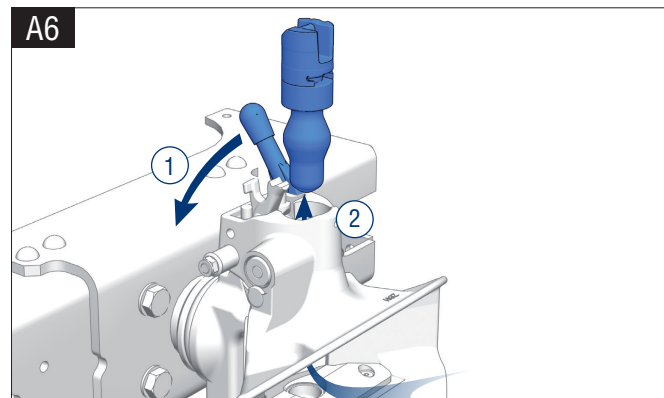
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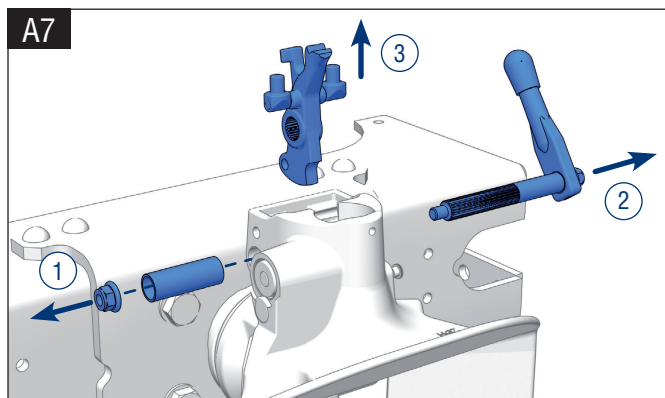
Dismantling of AUS/RL cap



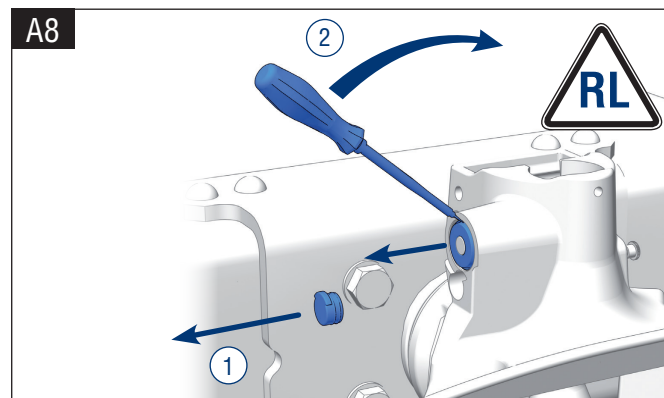
Dismantling of closing springs



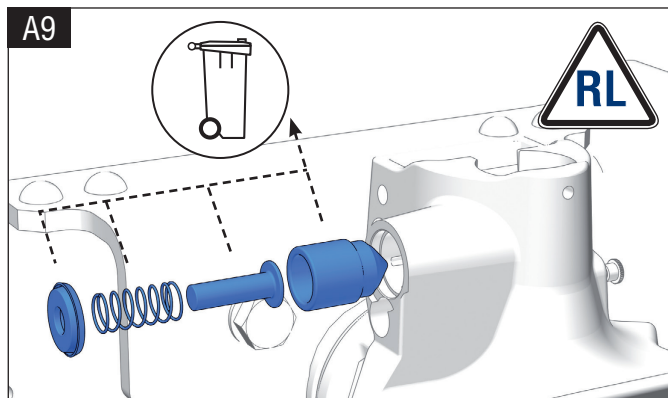
Dismantling of coupling bolt



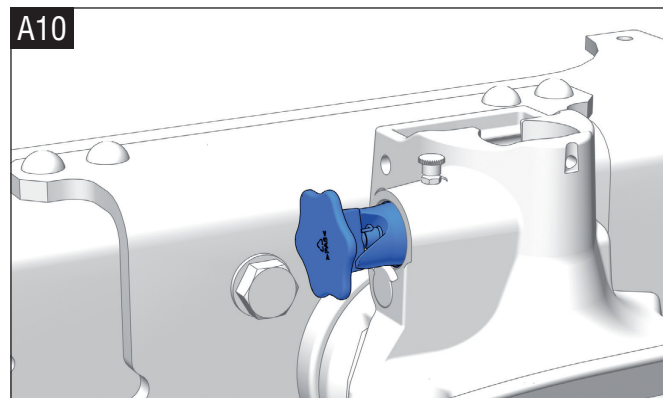
Dismantling of hand lever, dismantling of locking lever



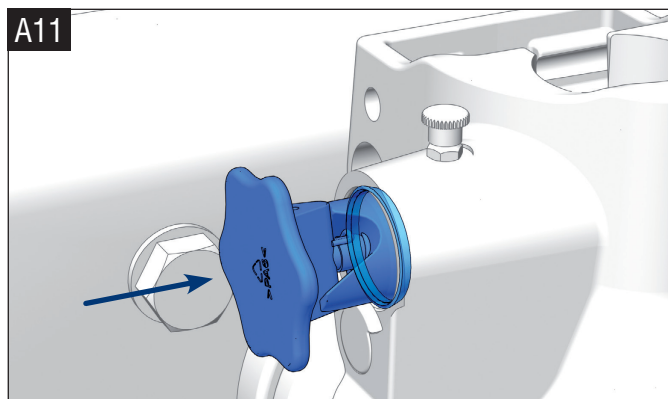
Removal of safety device (1)



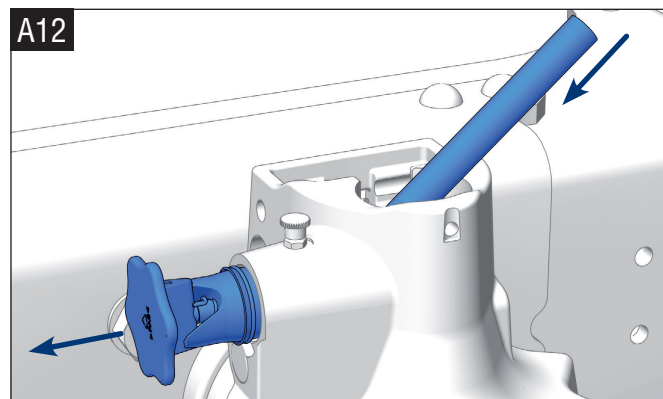
Removal of safety device (2)



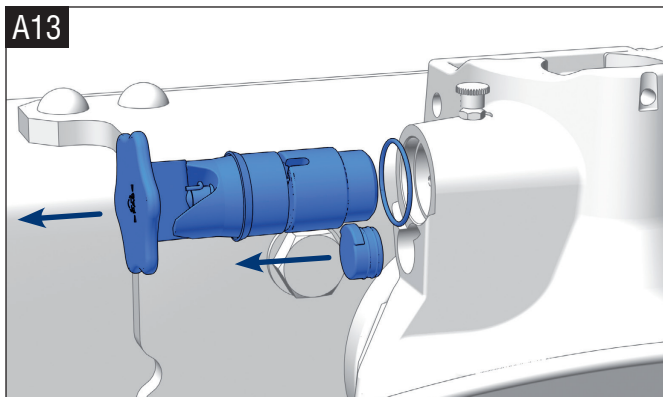
Removal of manual safety device (1)



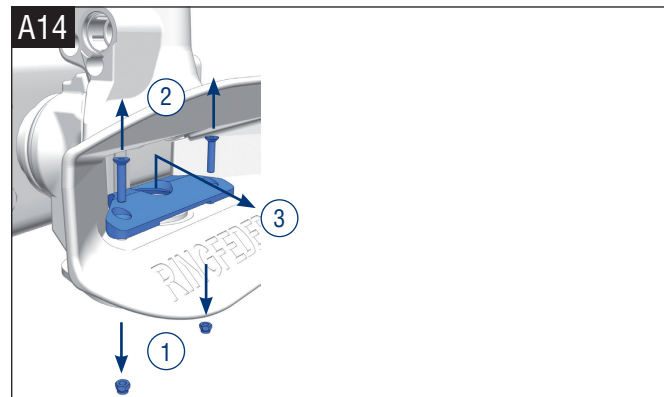
Removal of manual safety device (2)



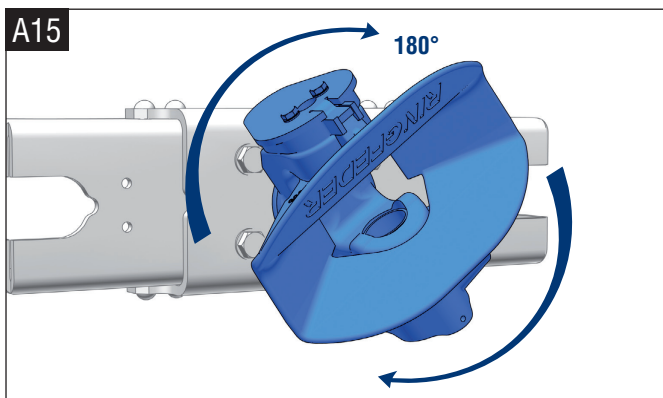
Removal of manual safety device (3)



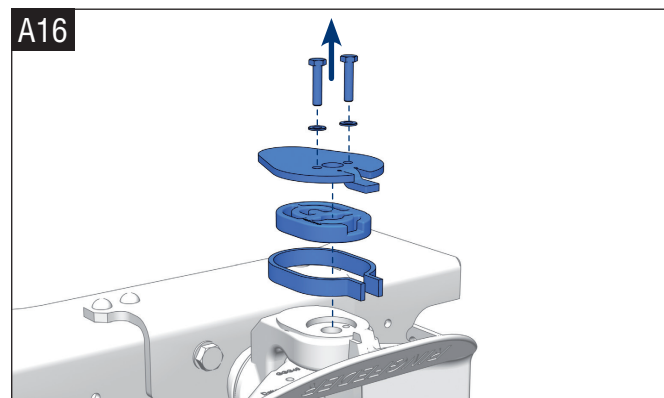
Removal of manual safety device (4)



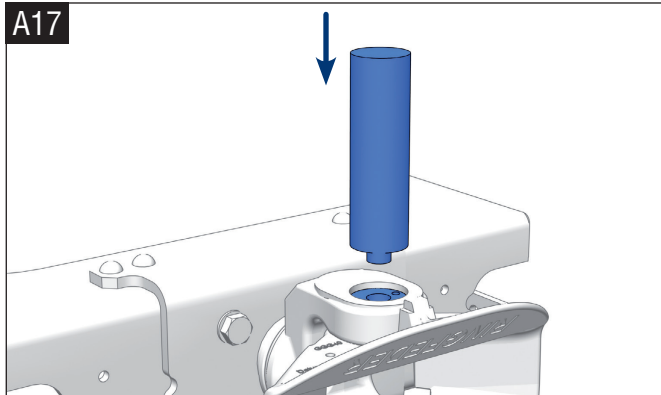
Dismantling of wear plate



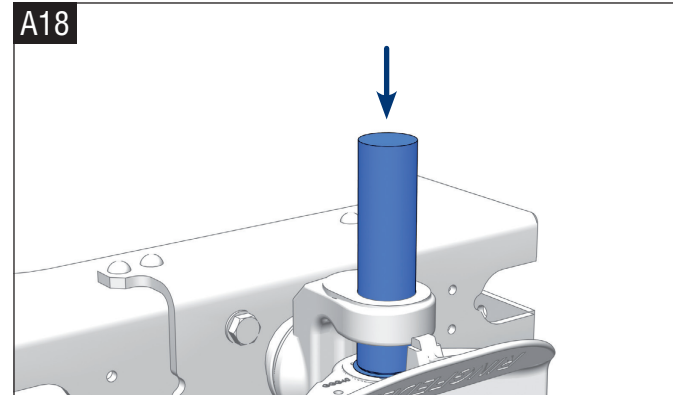
Rotate coupling



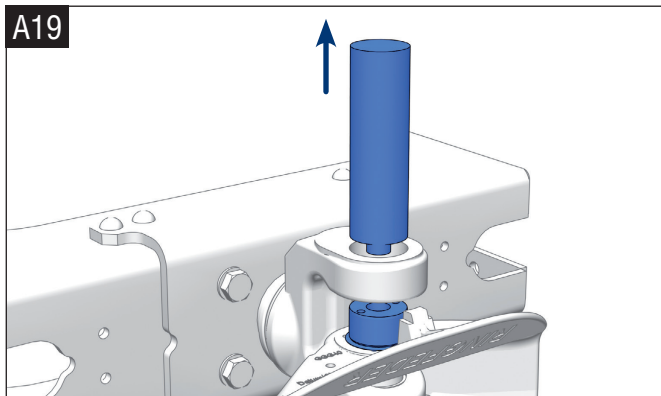
Dismantling of tab washer, dismantling of return spring



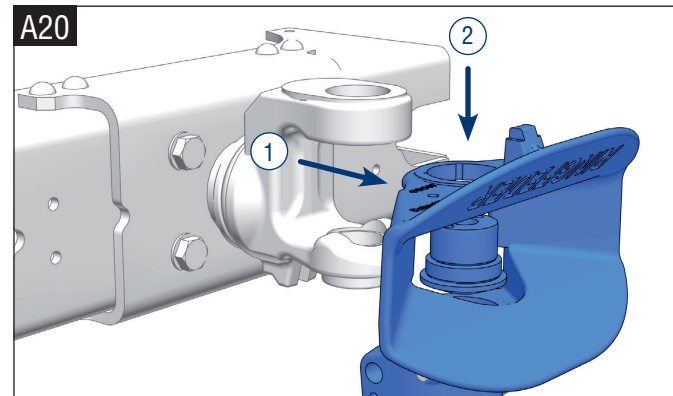
Dismantling of lower guide bushing and of the coupling assembly (1)



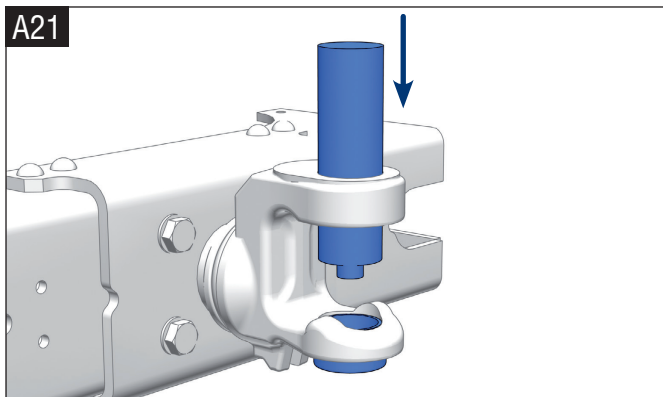
Dismantling of lower guide bushing and of the coupling assembly (2)



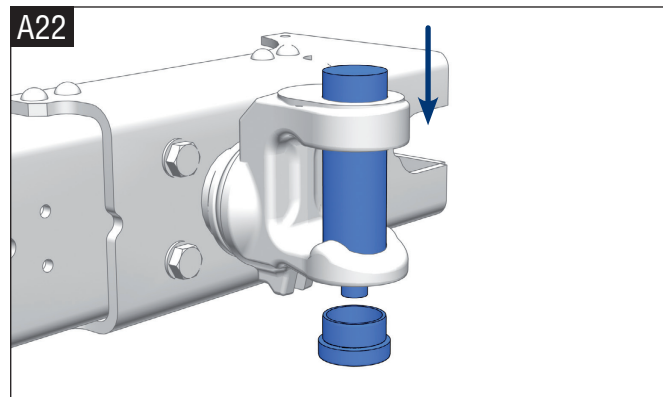
Dismantling of lower guide bushing and of the coupling assembly (3)



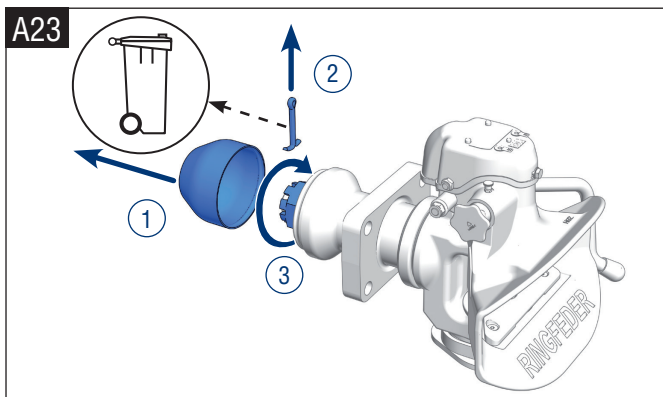
Dismantling of lower guide bushing and of the coupling assembly (4)



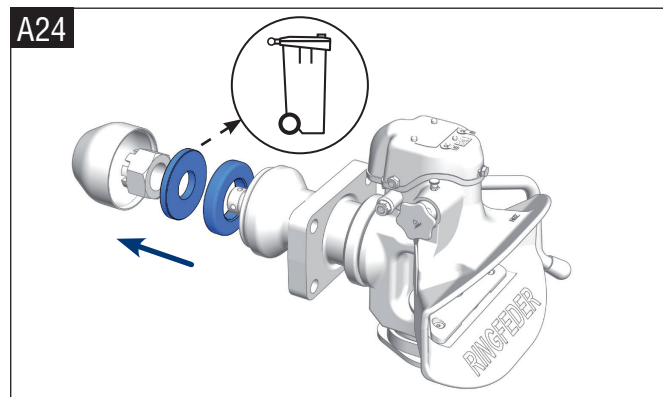
Dismantling of the upper guide bushing (1)



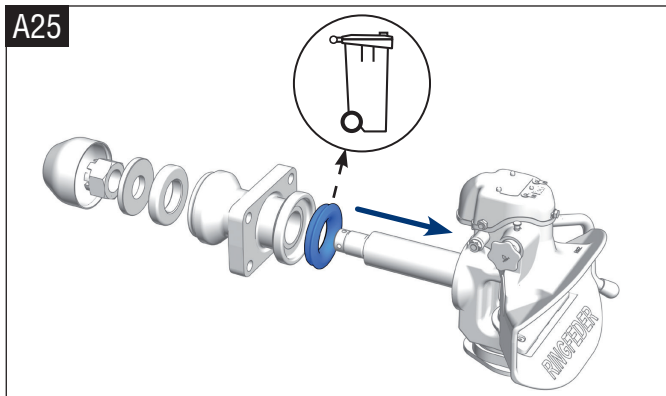
Dismantling of the upper guide bushing (2)



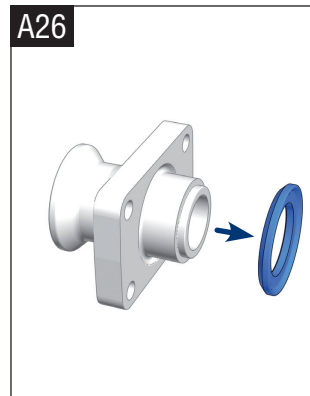
Dismantling of rubber springs (1)



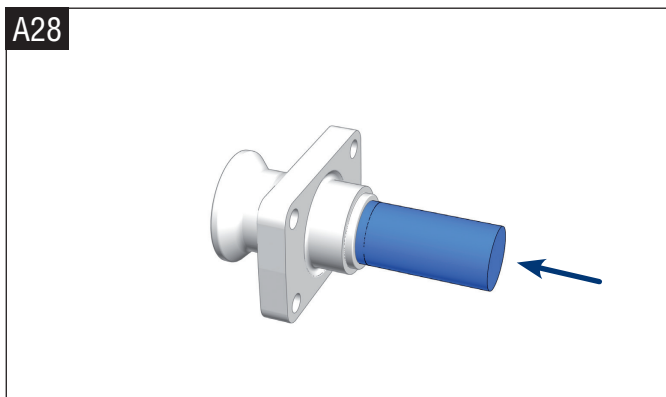
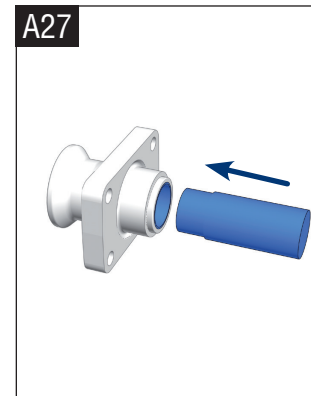
Dismantling of rubber springs (2)



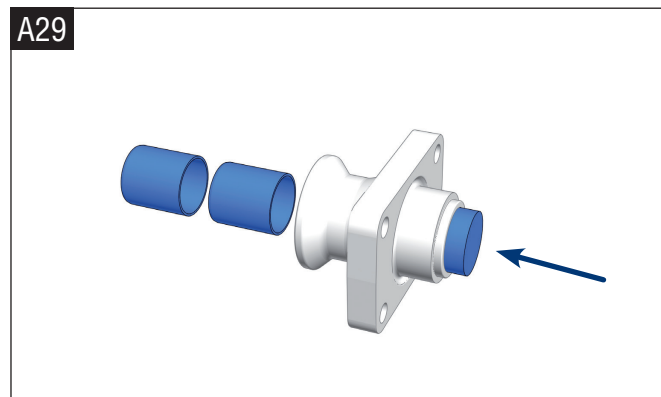
Dismantling of rubber springs (3)



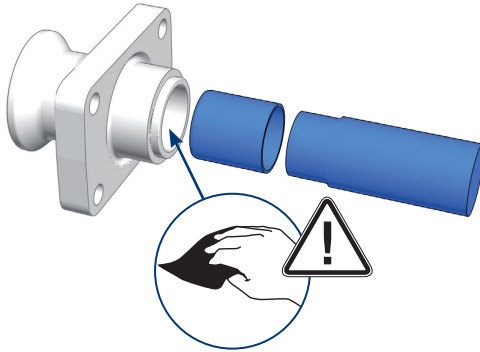
Dismantling of bearing bushing /rod guidance system (1 & 2)



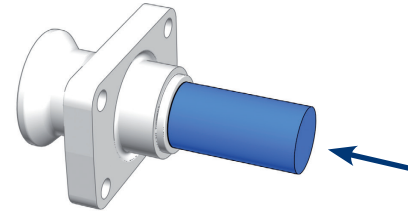
Dismantling of bearing bushing /rod guidance system (3)



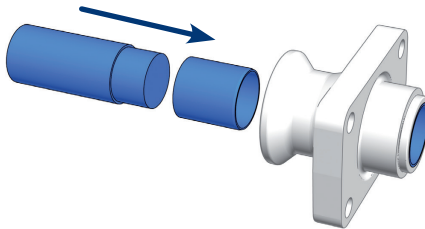
Dismantling of bearing bushing /rod guidance system (3)

**B1**

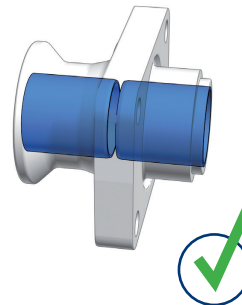
Fitting of bearing bushing/rod guidance system (1)

B2

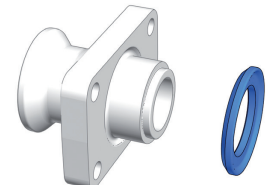
Fitting of bearing bushing/rod guidance system (2)

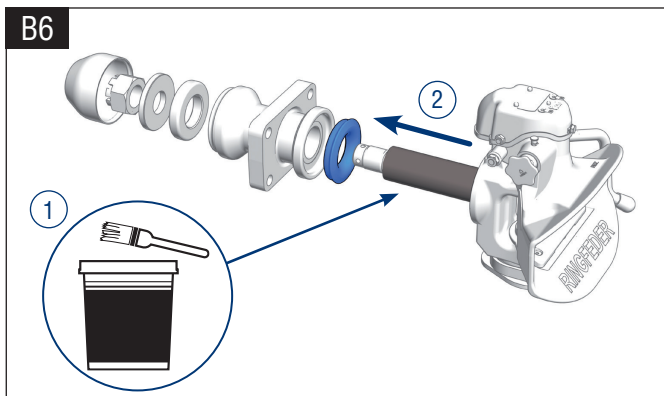
B3

Fitting of bearing bushing/rod guidance system (3)

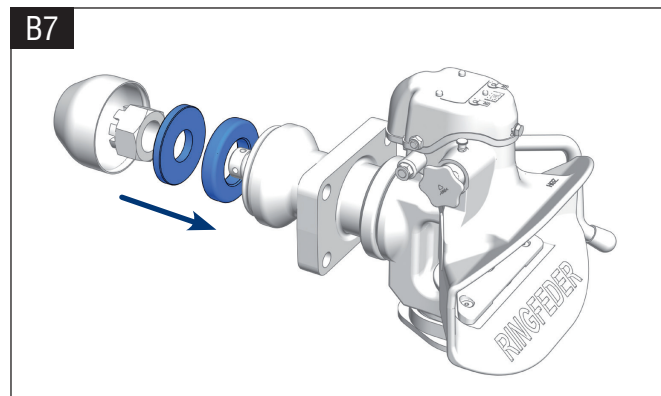
B4

Fitting of bearing bushing/rod guidance system (3 & 4)

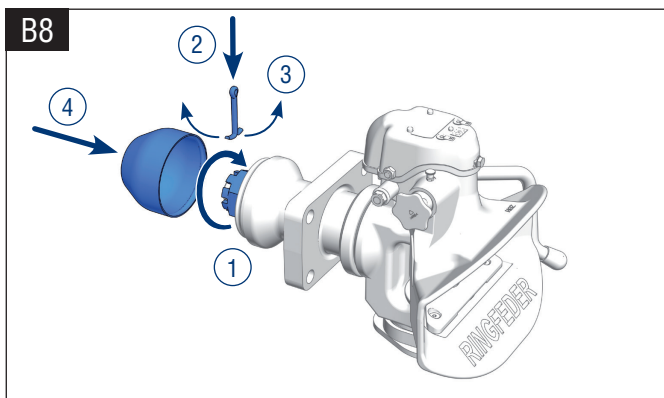
B5



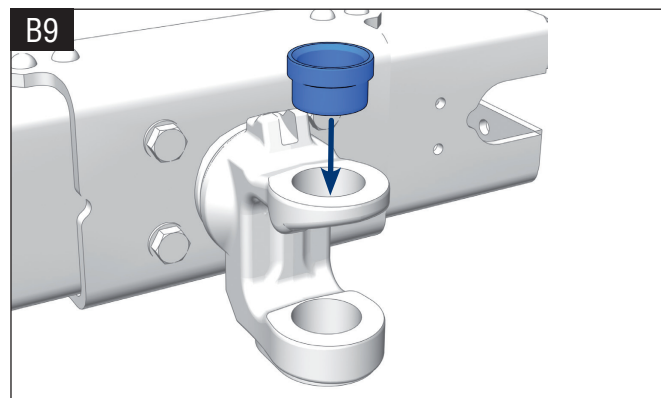
Fitting of the rubber springs (1)



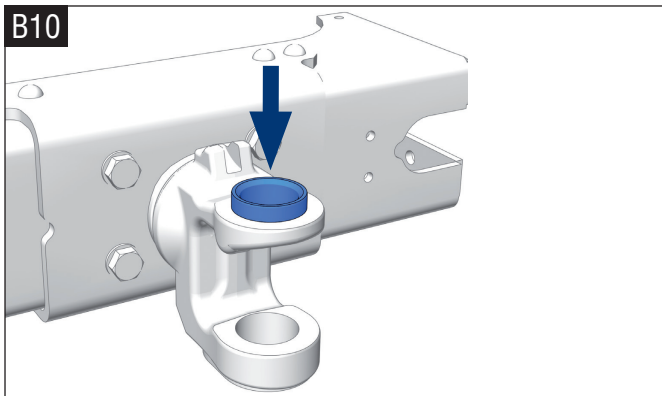
Fitting of the rubber springs (2)



Fitting of the rubber springs (3)



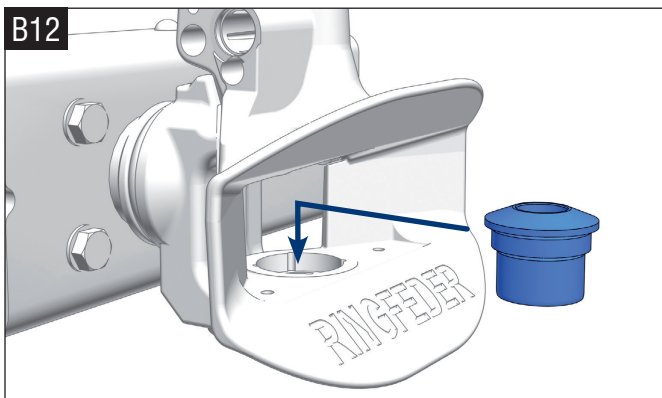
Fitting of the upper guide bushing (1)



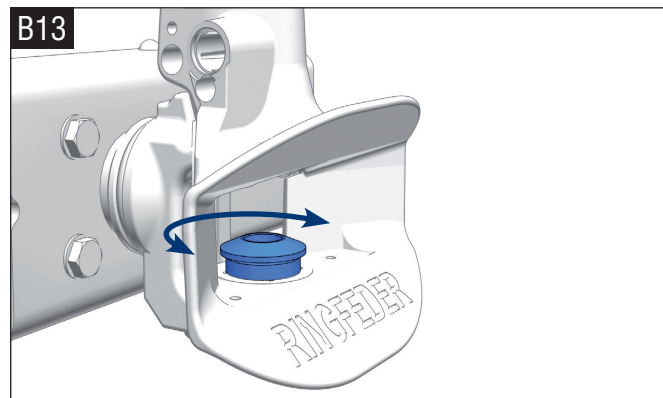
Fitting of the upper guide bushing (2)



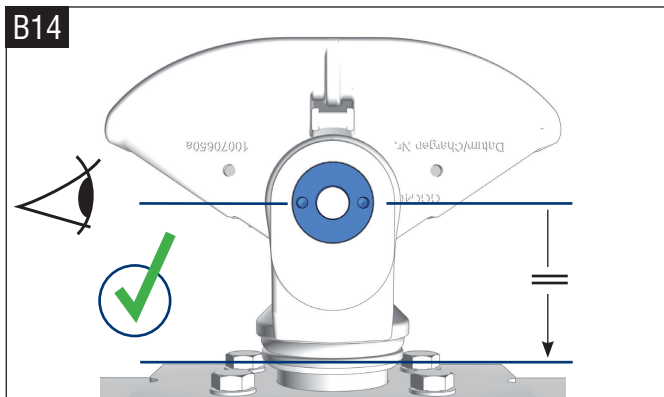
Fitting of the coupling assembly



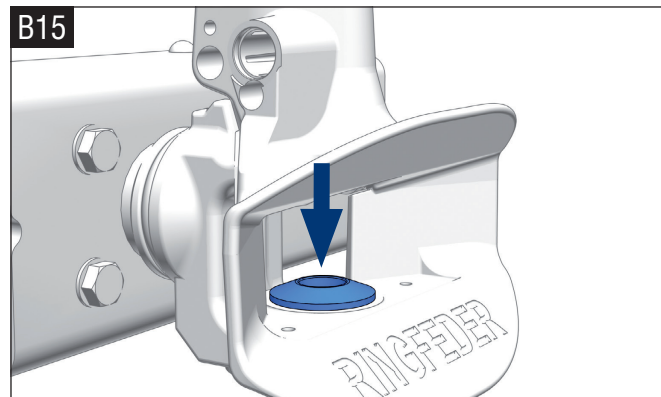
Fitting of the lower guide bushing (1)



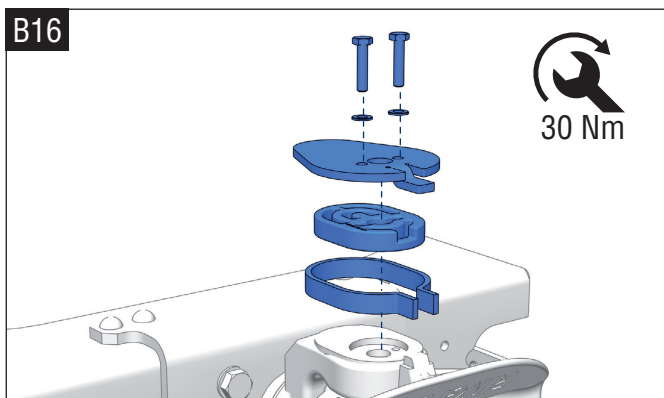
Fitting of the lower guide bushing (2)



Fitting of the lower guide bushing (3)

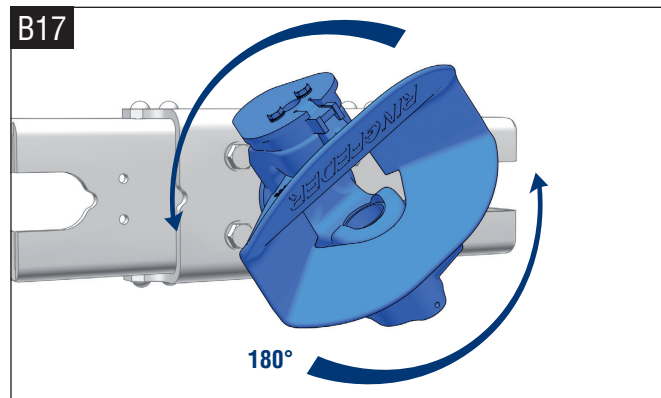


Fitting of the lower guide bushing (4)

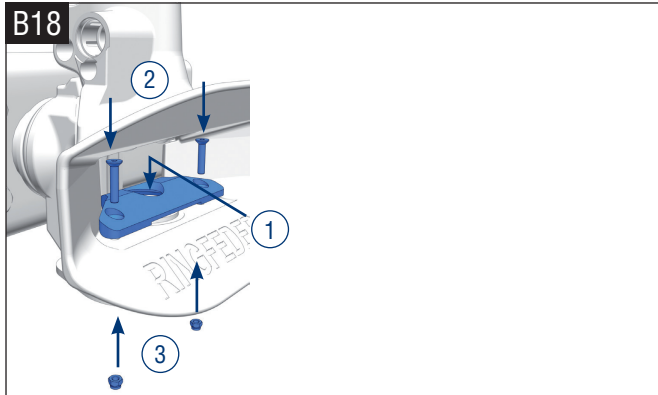


Fitting of the tab washer, fitting of the return springs

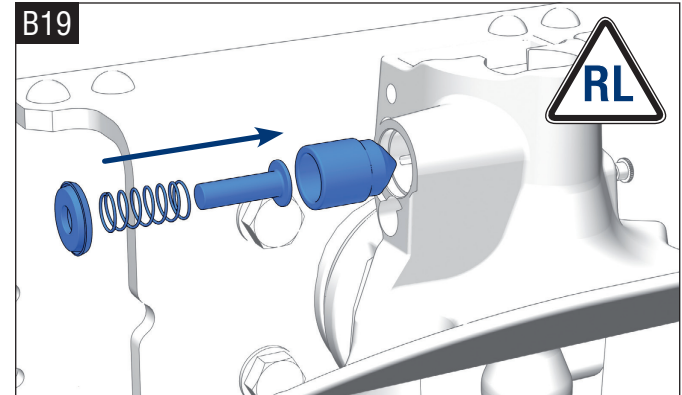
22



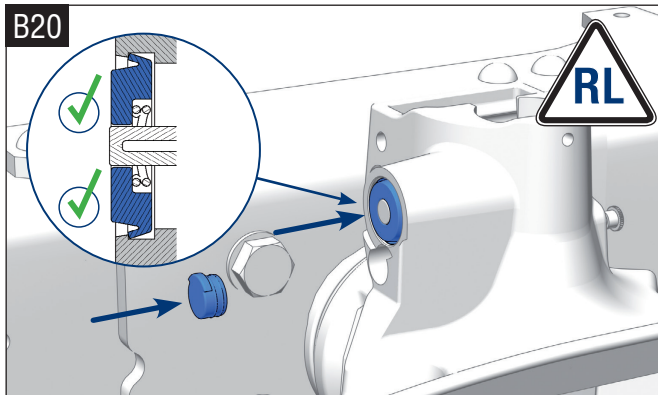
Rotate the coupling (back)



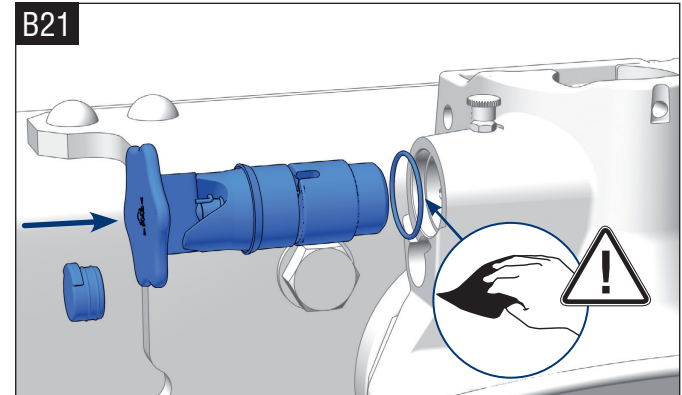
Fitting of wear plate



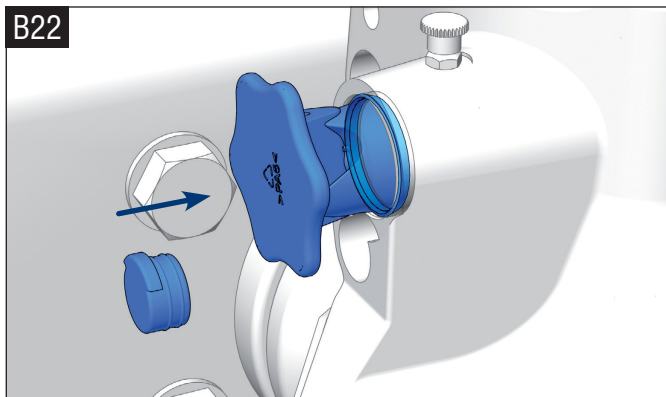
Fitting of safety device (1)



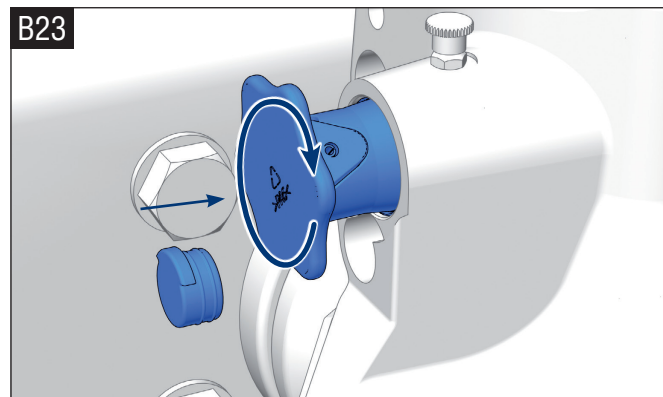
Fitting of safety device (2)



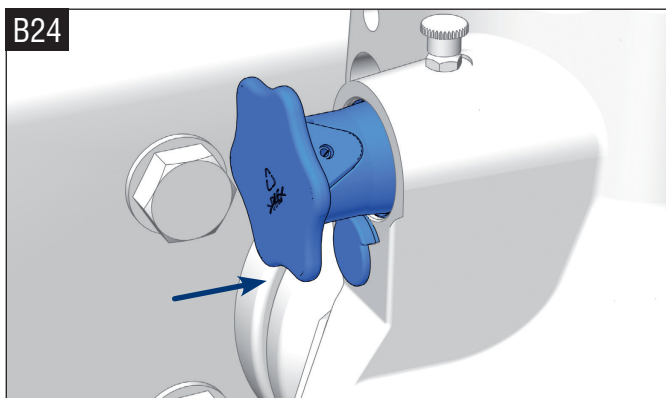
Fitting of manual safety device (1)



Fitting of manual safety device (2)

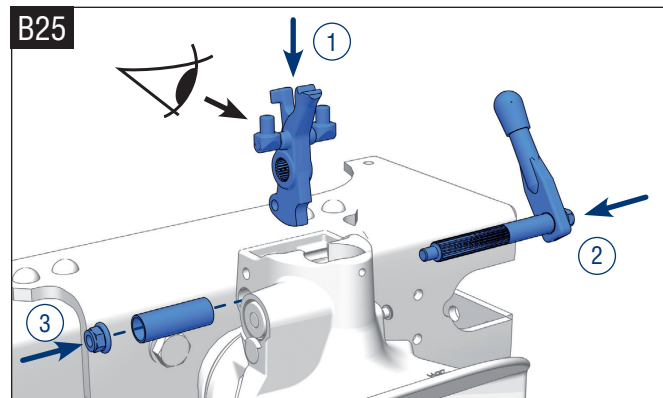


Fitting of manual safety device (3)



Fitting of manual safety device (4)

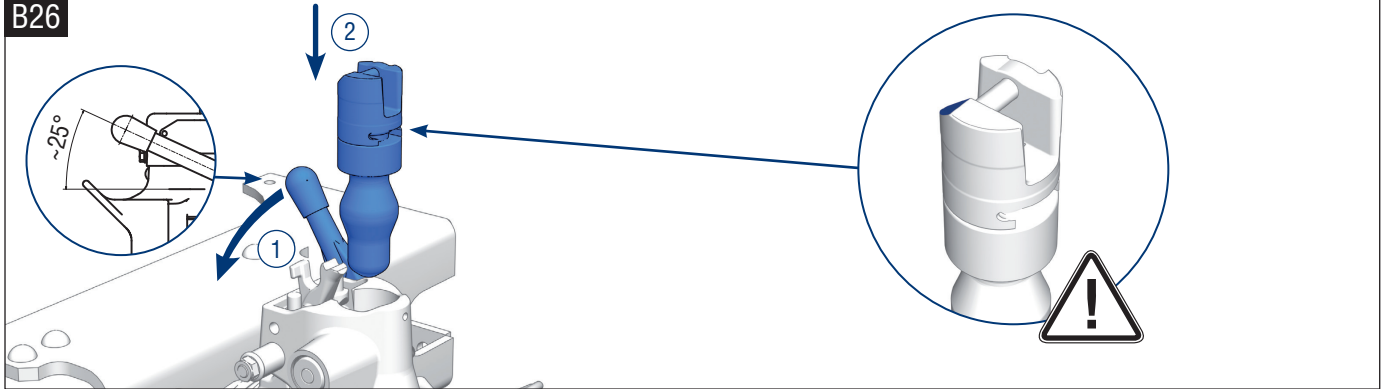
24



Fitting of hand lever, fitting of locking lever

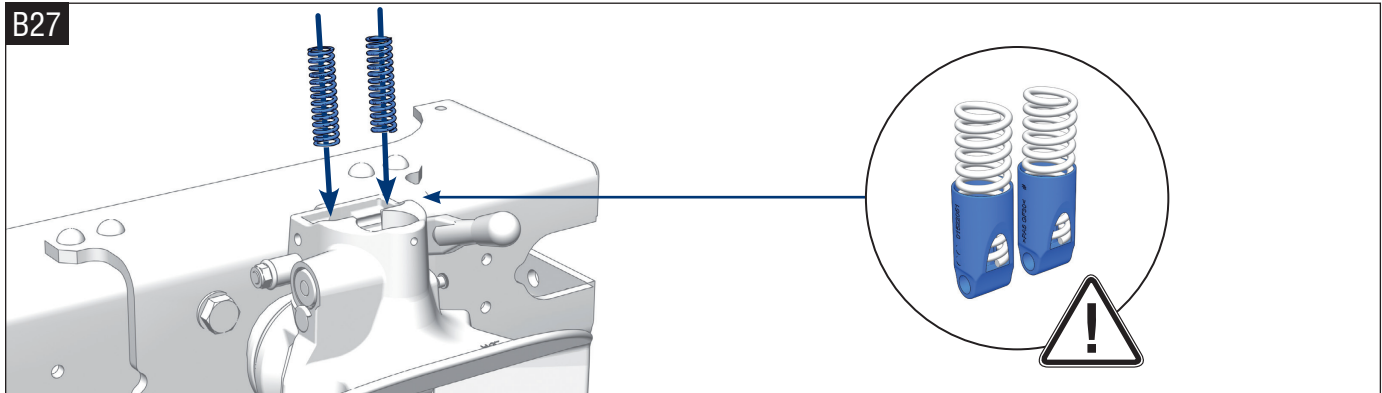


B26



Fitting of coupling bolt

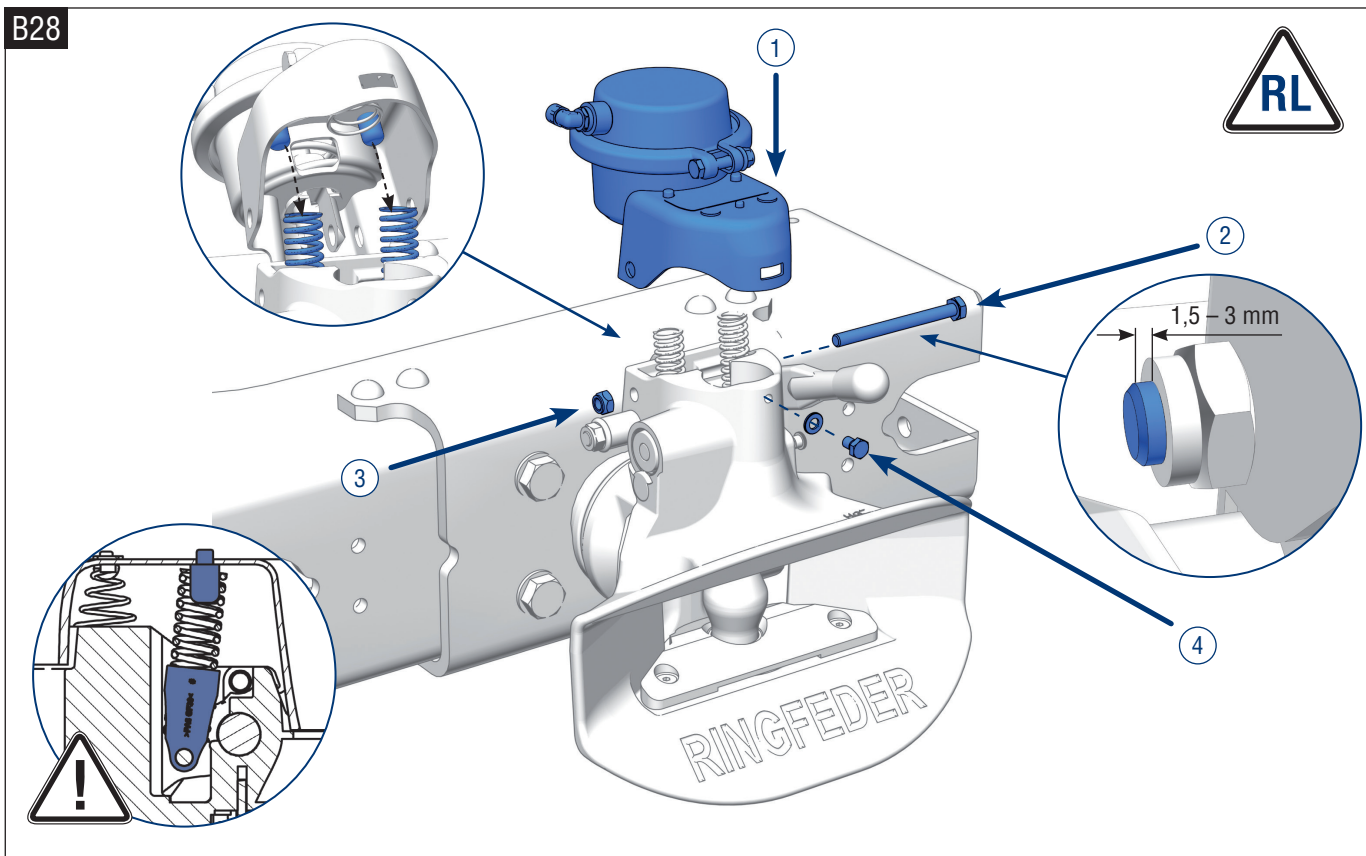
B27



Fitting of closing springs



B28

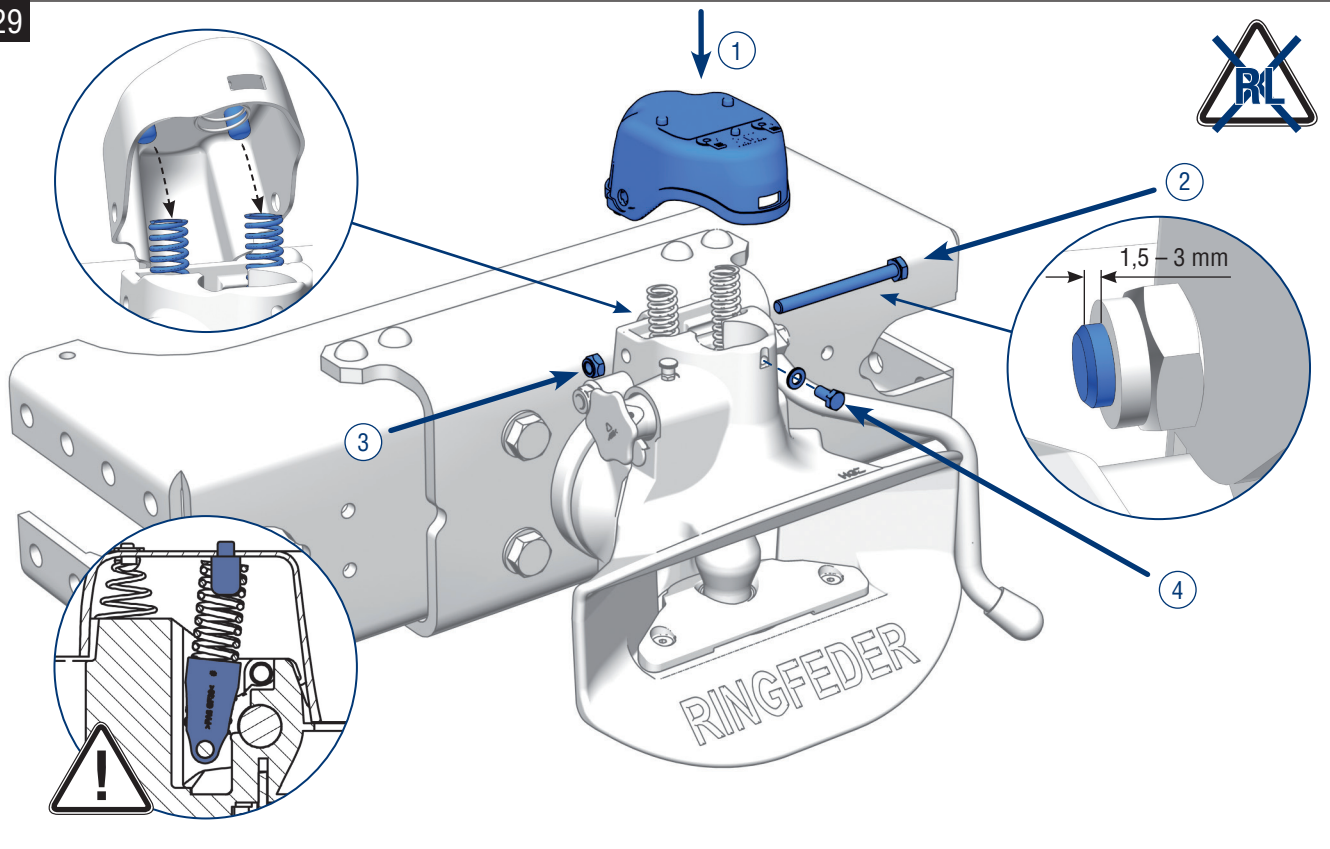


Fit AM end cap

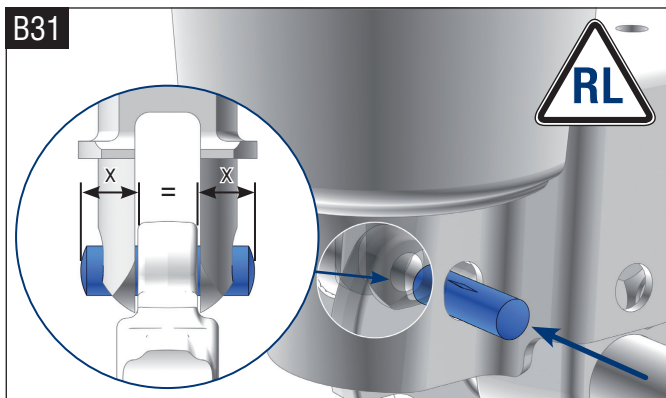
26



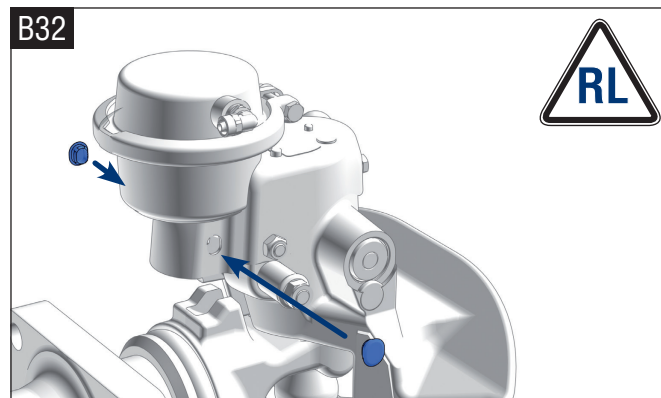
B29



Fitting of end cap



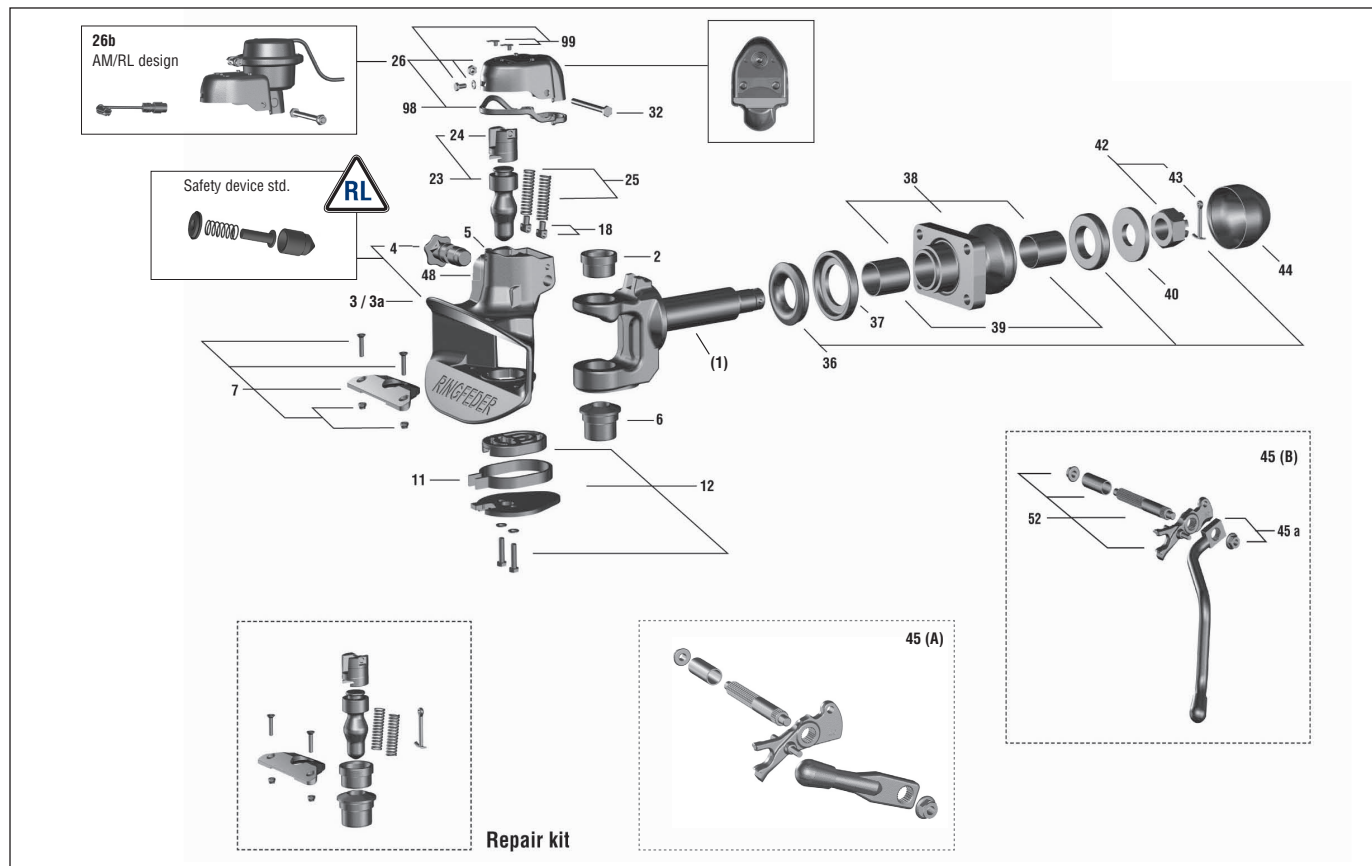
Drive in spiral pin (1)



Drive in spiral pin (2)



Connect compressed air supply



Type 303 AUS / 303 AUS/RL		
Pos	No.	Designation
2	14 991 384	Top guide bush
3	14 998 889	Coupling body 303 AUS
3a	14 991 392	Coupling body 303 AUS/RL
4	15 990 003	Manual safety device
4b	14 994 478	Safety device standard
6	14 991 407	Bottom guide bush
7	06 998 321	Special plastic plate
7a	09 996 770	Wearing plate (cast iron)
11	07 995 610	Return spring
12	14 991 399	Tab washer
18	07 998 341	Spring arm
23	14 991 375	Coupling bolt
25	14 991 273	Locking spring
26	14 997 511	End cap, cpl.
26b	14 991 390	End cap AM, cpl.
32	14 991 359	Hexagon screw M10 x 115, 10.9
36	14 994 568	Rubber spring
37	14 994 472	Thrust washer
38	14 994 463	Bar guide

Type 303 AUS / 303 AUS/RL		
Pos	No.	Designation
39	14 994 876	Bearing bush
40	14 994 496	Tension washer
42	06 997 732	Castellated nut M45 x 3
43	12 991 533	Cotter pin 8 X 80
44	14 994 455	Protecting cap
45	14 996 858	Hand-/locking lever combination design B
45a	14 997 190	Hand lever bent, design B
46	14 991 391	Hand-/locking lever combination design A
46a	14 991 312	Hand lever bent, design A
48	09 122 900	Plug for sensor hole (10 pieces)
52	14 996 842	Axle with locking lever
98	09 177 600	Sealing incl. grease plugs
99	09 177 500	Grease plug (10 pieces)
100	14 996 426	Remote indicator
14 991 632		Repair kit (Pos. 2 + 6 + 7 + 23 + 43)



Produced in a certified company

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