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High Performance Automatic Tire Inflation System

Aeris® by STEMCO, an advanced automatic tire inflation system based on patented rotary sealing technology and precision electronic airflow detection. The system is designed to keep commercial trailer tires properly inflated using air pressure from the trailer’s air system. The rotary seal in an automatic tire inflation system is a critical component – it prevents the higher pressures needed to inflate commercial tires (typically 100 psi) from leaking into the wheel end, which can handle no more than 6 psi.

Excess pressure can cause the wheel end seal to fail prematurely, causing lubricants to exit the hub thus leaving moving parts susceptible to wear and seizure – a dangerous scenario. The rotary seal employed in Aeris® by STEMCO differs dramatically from currently available systems and is targeted to increase the reliability and durability of these components substantially. In addition to the high reliability and durability of the patented sealing system, Aeris® by STEMCO also includes several one-way pressure relief valves per axle to ensure that the wheel-end is never pressurized.

Aeris® by STEMCO also includes a high resolution electronic flow detection technology capable of informing the driver whether the system is making a minor adjustment to tire pressure or if a major leak is present. An additional safety feature is a pressure protection valve to protect the integrity of the air brake system in the case of a major and continuous air leak such as a blow out or other catastrophic tire failure.

Aeris® by STEMCO represents a leap forward in automatic tire inflation technology. STEMCO starts with an unwavering commitment to increase the safety of our roadways by protecting the wheel end from damaging air pressure, and then added several additional safeguards and features. Aeris®augments our BAT RF tire pressure monitoring systems to complete our suite of tire pressure management solutions.
General Information

About This Manual
This manual is provided to support the STEMCO Aeris® tire inflation system. The manual provides the following information needed to install service and troubleshoot the Aeris® system.

Explanation of Signal Words
Please pay attention to special symbols used throughout this manual to convey important information. Hazard signal words such as DANGER, WARNING, CAUTION, or NOTICE are used throughout this manual. Information accented by these words indicates a point of emphasis and importance. The following definitions comply with ANSI Z535.4 and indicate the use of signal words as they appear within this manual.

! DANGER: Indicates immediate hazards which will result in severe personal injury or death.

! WARNING: Indicates hazards or unsafe practices which could result in severe personal injury or death.

! CAUTION: Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury.

NOTICE: Indicates hazards or unsafe practices which could result in damage to machine or equipment.

IMPORTANT: An operating procedure, practice or condition that is essential to emphasize.

( ! ) Safety alert symbol used to indicate a condition exists that may result in personal injury or harm to individuals. It must be applied to DANGER, WARNING and CAUTION statements which emphasize severity.

IMPORTANT: Please pay special attention to the information supplied in the Explanation of Signal Words section. These words are used to help prevent immediate hazards, unsafe practices, severe personal injury or death and damage to machines or equipment.

Important Safety Notices
Proper maintenance, service and repair are important to the operation and reliability of the trailer suspension system and its components. The procedures recommended by STEMCO as described in this manual are methods of performing maintenance, inspection, repair and service. All warnings and cautions should be read carefully to help prevent personal injury and to help assure proper installation methods are used. Improper maintenance, service and repair can result in personal injury, vehicle damage, property damage, unsafe operating conditions or void the manufacturer’s warranty.

Carefully read, understand and follow all safety related information in this manual.

! WARNING: DO NOT modify or rework parts. Use only STEMCO Aeris® authorized replacement parts. Use of substitute, modified or replacement parts not authorized by STEMCO may not meet STEMCO's specifications. This may cause the part to fail which could result in loss of vehicle control and possible personal injury or property damage. Do not modify parts without STEMCO's authorized written permission.

! WARNING: Always wear proper PPE when installing and performing maintenance repair, servicing equipment or cleaning tractor or trailer components.

! WARNING: Solvent cleaners can be flammable, poisonous and can burns or serious injury. To help avoid serious personal injury, carefully follow the manufacturer's product instructions and guidelines. Please follow the procedures below:

- Wear proper eye protection
- Wear proper protective clothing to protect your skin
- Always work in well-ventilated area
- DO NOT use gasoline, or solvents that contain gasoline. Gasoline can explode and cause serious personal injury or death.
- Hot tank solutions or alkaline solutions must be used correctly. Follow the manufacturer’s product instructions and guidelines.
- ! WARNING: Avoid creating dust from brakes when cleaning around any brake components. Dust from brake pads and/or parts are a possible cancer and lung disease hazard.

General Service Information
Before starting any work or installation, read, understand and comply with the following:

- Read all instructions and procedures.
- Company's service, maintenance, installation and troubleshooting procedures.
- Manufacturer's vehicle safety instructions when working on the vehicle.
- Manufacturer's vehicle instructions not detailed in this service manual.
- Follow all local safety regulations and best safety practices when installing.

General Service Installation Notes
- Work must be performed by trained personnel.
- Use all recommended tools required to help avoid personal injury and damage to components.
- Be aware of potential power release of tensioned springs on brake chamber or the brake return springs. The release of tension can cause injury.
- After installation perform operational checks and test the trailer to make sure the brakes are functioning properly before releasing back into service.
System Overview

The Aeris® tire inflation system is designed to automatically inflate tires that are below the target pressure setting. The system uses air from the trailer’s compressed air tank. The compressed air tank pressure setting must be higher than the targeted tire pressure setting. Failure to have the air tank pressure above the target tire pressure prevents proper operation of the inflation system.

System Features

- Tire pressure is continuously monitored and adjusted automatically to the target tire pressure.
- Adjustable air pressure regulator is used for setting desired tire pressure target.
- An indicator light will illuminate when air is flowing to the tires.
- Does not pressurize axle tube (prevent contamination of seals).
- Rotary seal air leakage will not enter the wheel end, preventing oil contamination on the hubcap.
- Each wheel end has dual venting paths to prevent wheel end pressurization.
- Checks tire pressure constantly.
- Integrated check valves in the hoses isolate tires from system if a tire is damaged or leaking.
- Tire pressure check ports are integrated into each hose, eliminating the need to remove the hose to check the tire pressure.
- An air filter is provided on the inlet airline to prevent particulates from clogging the system.

Aeris® Specifications

- Tire pressure setting range: 70-120 psi
- Pressure check interval: Continuously supplies air to tires
- Zero power Driver Warning Lamp Display operating temperature -38°C to 68°C (-36° F to 154° F).
  Survival range is -50°C to 85°C (-58° F to 185° F).
- System power requirements at 12 VDC: < 12W
- Minimum power voltage required to operate: 9 VDC
- Indicator light current range: 50 mA to 600 mA
- Tire inflation capacity (per tire): 10 psi in 2-3 min.
- Indicator light gives the following system information:
  - No light: System is good
  - Power up: Light blinks three times (SmartSense Only)
  - No pressure: Long flash followed by 2 blinks repeating. (SmartSense Only)
  - Low volume flow: Constantly on (Standard or SmartSense)
  - High volume flow: Blinks constantly (SmartSense Only)
System Operation

How System Works

The Aeris® tire inflation system is designed to continuously supply filtered, regulated compressed air to each tire on the trailer. There is no operation required of the driver for the system to function normally. The only requirement of the driver is to verify the indicator lamp is functioning and to monitor the system periodically.

The Aeris® system is preset to maintain a specific tire pressure in each tire. The pressure in the trailer's air tank must be maintained above the targeted pressure to allow the controller to continuously supply and maintain the preset tire pressure to all tires.

! IMPORTANT: For Aeris® controller to operate properly the air tank pressure must be greater than the tire pressure target. The controller cannot supply tire pressure above the air tank pressure.

When the system is operating properly, the air tank will supply pressurized air to the Aeris® controller. The controller will supply regulated compressed air to the airlines going to each tire. If a tire is low, air from the trailer air tank will inflate the tire until the targeted tire pressure is achieved. Regulated air flowing from the controller to the airlines and tires may cause the indicator light to remain on until the target pressure is reached. Constant pressure remains and is maintained in air lines and tires at the targeted pressure.

If a tire is leaking or there is a leak in the lines, the indicator light may illuminate and stay on. If the indicator light stays on for more than 10 minutes, the system is attempting to inflate the tire or trying to correct for the airline loss to the targeted air pressure. If this happens, the operator should stop and check the tires manually to determine if it's safe to continue to operate the vehicle. Operator should seek service at the next available opportunity.

Remaining tires are protected from pressure loss by check valves integrated into each tire hose.

System Components List

- Hubcaps
- Spindle plug driver and plugs
- Air lines and fittings
- Light indicator and electrical wiring
- Control box with regulator and filter
- Control box mounting bracket
- Flexible wiring conduit
- Hardware kit

Recommended Tool List

- 1/2" Drill
- Drill Speed Recommendations
  - 7/16” Drill Speed: 262 – 786 rpm
  - 5/16” Drill Speed 367 – 1100 rpm
- Drill Bushings (Type SF) 5/16”, 7/16” and 9/16”
- Drill Bits 5/16”, 7/16” and 15/32”
- Variable speed 1/2” drive electric drill is recommended
- 1/4-18 NPT Tap
- L1 NPT Plug Gauge
- Medium to Heavy Duty Extension Cord
- Wire Strippers
- Wire Crimper
- Combination Wrenches: 1/2”, 9/16” and 11/16”
- Hammer
- Drill Fixture (See page 12)
- Ratchet and Sockets: 1/2”, 9/16” and 11/16”
- #2 Phillips Screwdriver Bit for Drill
- Cutting and Tapping Fluid
- 10” Adjustable Wrench (Crescent)
Aeris® Installation

Trailer Preparation

1.) Park trailer on level surface.
2.) Set trailer parking brake.
3.) Chock each trailer wheel.
4.) Place jack stands under trailer.
5.) Bleed braking system of compressed air.

Axle Preparation

Drain Oil

1.) Place drain pan under hubcap for oil.
2.) Remove bolts from all hubcaps and allow oil to drain from each wheel end.

Figure 1

! WARNING: Before starting any work on trailer, park trailer on a level surface. Chock all wheels in front and back of each wheel to prevent the trailer from moving. Support the trailer with safety jack stands. DO NOT work under vehicle supported by jack stands only! Jacks can slip and fall over. Serious personal injury or damage to components can result. See Figure 1.

! WARNING: To prevent serious eye injury, always wear approved safety glasses when performing trailer maintenance and service.
Welch Plug Removal

1.) Remove welch plugs. Drill a small hole off center in welch plug. Hole should be smaller than plug removal spear on the end of slide hammer. Using a slide hammer fitted with a welch plug removal spear to remove the welch plug. Be careful not to score the inside diameter of the spindle bore.

2.) If you do not have a slide hammer you may be able to remove the welch plug by using a chisel and hitting the welch plug off center. This should cause the plug to start turning inside the spindle unless there is a shoulder behind the welch plug. Once the plug has turned enough to grab it with a pair of pliers and pull until plug comes out.

3.) If plug cannot be removed, drill a 1/2” hole in the welch plug. Make sure as you are drilling the hole you don’t score the inside diameter of the spindle bore.

4.) Insert a long steel rod into the 1/2” hole until it hits the back side of the welch plug in the opposite spindle. Steel rod must be longer than the length of the axle. Use a hammer to hit the rod and knock the welch plug out. Pull rod out and repeat procedure on the plug with hole with the 1/2” hole in it. Repeat procedure for second axle. **See Figure 2**

5.) Inspect the spindle bore for burrs. Remove any burrs using straight die grinder with light grade flapper sanding wheel. Clean the bore of any grinding debris.

6.) Check inside spindle to verify that the axle is hollow, which is required for airline passage.

7.) Cover bearings and axle nut with clean towel to prevent contamination.

Determine Axle Requirements:

- Axle with nothing installed – Start at "Drill and Tap Holes".
- Axles with pre-drilled holes but no hardware installed – Start at "Axle Hose Installation"
- Axle with “Other” tire inflation system – remove airlines and fittings – Start at "Axle Hose Installation"

Drill and Tap Holes

1.) Clean off axle for drilling holes for air fittings.

2.) Review the sketch of how drill fixture is made. **See Figure 3 & 4.**
3.) Drill holes using the drill fixture (Figure 4) to facilitate drilling and tapping of holes for the three air fittings. Use a level to align the fixture and a c-clamp to hold fixture in place (figure 5). Use lubricant for drilling and tapping the holes.

4.) Use either an angle drill or standard drill where room permits. With drill fixture in place (Figure 5) insert the 5/16” drill bushing in fixture and drill a pilot hole using a 5/16” drill bit. Next insert the 7/16” bushing and drill the hole using a 7/16” drill bit. Next insert the 9/16” bushing in fixture and using a 1/4–18 NPT, tap the hole. Repeat procedure on all 3 holes in each trailer axle.

**IMPORTANT:** For some axle configurations, you may be required to remove the slack adjuster and or the air brake chamber in order to access the drill locations specified by the axle manufacturer.

5.) Tap 1/4–18 NPT: Proper tap depth determination for a tapered pipe thread (NPT) requires an L1 Plug Gauge, which STEMCO highly recommends. If an L1 gauge is not available, an approximation of tap depth can be made by using the actual fitting that will be inserted into the hole. Using only hand applied torque; the fitting should screw into the hole so that 2 to 3 threads are inside the hole before it becomes too tight to turn. This is a trial and error process to get the right depth, so use caution to prevent over-tapping. Once the tap depth is verified, mark that depth on the tap (wrap tape around it, or mark with permanent ink) so the tap can be driven to that depth on future holes.

6.) When finished drilling holes, use a cleaning wand connected to high pressure air to blow out shavings from inside of the axle. Use safety glasses.

**WARNING:** The use of a drill fixture is recommended. Drilling free hand can create oblong holes. Drilling should be done at the following drill speeds: 7/16” – 262 rpm to 786 rpm; 5/16” – 367 rpm to 1100 rpm. Keep drill straight when boring holes. Tapping should be done by hand only. Do not use a drill for tapping. The use of a drill to tap holes can lead to threads being too deep or breaking the tap.

**WARNING:** When drilling the 7/16” hole, be careful as the drill bit breaks through the inside of the axle! The drill bit can hang up causing the drill to twist in your hands. When breaking through the inside of the axle, apply less pressure and drill at a slower speed.
1. Axle
2. Torpedo Level
3. C-Clamp
4. Drilling Fixture

**NOTE:** Before drilling any holes in axle make sure they will not interfere with any suspension components or brake components. Contact STEMCO for technical assistance at 903-758-9981 in U.S.A.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Axle Manufacturer</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<th>Location B</th>
</tr>
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<td>INTRAAX / VANTRAAX</td>
<td>See Figure 6</td>
<td>See Figure 6a</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hendrickson</td>
<td>TRIAXLE</td>
<td>See Figure 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meritor</td>
<td></td>
<td>See Figure 7</td>
<td>See Figure 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Axle Wrap**

**Figure 6**

- 3 Holes Drilled in Windows
- Approved Drilling Area
- 1/2" Minimum from Window Edge
- DO NOT Drill in This Area
- Vent Hole

**Figure 6a**

- Locate Holes in Top of Axle
- 11.5

**Drill & tap airline holes based on chart below. Holes are based on manufacturer’s recommendations.**

- Center of Axle
- 3 Holes in Axle for Air Fittings

**Figure 5**

- 1. Drill Pilot Hole – 5/16"
- 2. Drill Ø 7/16" Top Wall Only
- 3. Tap Holes Using 1/4 - 18 NPT

1. Axle
2. Torpedo Level
3. C-Clamp
4. Drilling Fixture

**Figure 6a**

- 3 Holes in Axle for Air Fittings
- Center of Axle
- 3 Holes in Axle for Air Fittings

**Figure 5**

- 1. Drill Pilot Hole – 5/16"
- 2. Drill Ø 7/16" Top Wall Only
- 3. Tap Holes Using 1/4 - 18 NPT

1. Axle
2. Torpedo Level
3. C-Clamp
4. Drilling Fixture

**Figure 6**

- 3 Holes Drilled in Windows
- Approved Drilling Area
- 1/2" Minimum from Window Edge
- DO NOT Drill in This Area
- Vent Hole

**Figure 6a**

- Locate Holes in Top of Axle
- 11.5
Component Installation Instructions

Wheels on each wheel end (dual tires) must have the valve stems clocked approximately 180° apart for installation of airlines to Aeris® hubcap and valve stems on tires. Clocking should be done prior to installing Aeris® system. See Figure 10.
Clocking Wheels

Clocking dual wheels is an important task during the Aeris® Tire Inflation Systems installation process.

Correct clocking of hubcap-to-hub:
Hubcap fill port lines up exactly with wheel stud – there are 3 possible positions of the hubcap, but only this one is correct.

Incorrect Clocking

Correct: Hose fitting port aligned just to the right of a stud

Correct: For a 5-hole wheel, clock the wheel as shown

These alignments are incorrect

If the hubcap does not have a fill port protrusion (grease-only hubcap), another clocking technique is to align one of the hose fitting ports on the hubcap just to the right side of one of the studs, as shown.

Figure 10

Figure 11
**Correct Hubo Bracket Position:**
Legs straddle fill port

**Incorrect:**
Legs block the hose port fittings

---

**Correct Wheel Clocking (Wheel-to-Hubcap):**
Wheel hoses do not touch hand holes
*(Note: fill port is correctly aligned with a wheel stud)*

**Correct Wheel Clocking:**
With hubo bracket installed

---

**Figure 11a**

**Clocking Wheel Index Relationship Between Hubcap and Bracket**

---

**Figure 11b**

**Clocking Wheel Index Relationship Between Hubcap and Bracket**
Axle Hose Installation

! WARNING: Before pushing the airline tubing into the axle, disassemble the pass through fitting and place the components over the end of the air line in this order: See Figure 12.

1.) Pass Through Cap
2.) Rubber O-ring
3.) Pass Through Fitting Body
4.) Now place a piece of masking tape over the end of the air line or plug the end of it so no debris can get inside the line as it is being pushed through the axle towards the wheel end.

5.) Push the cap, O-ring and pass through fitting back approximately 5” in preparation for threading the airline though the axle.
6.) Route the air line through the axle towards the spindle end on each of the outer tapped holes until airline is protruding approximately 8” out of the spindle. If airline hangs up inside the axle, you may need to use something to help fish it through the spindle end. Make sure the airline doesn’t have any kinks in it.

Split Loom Tubing Protection Installation

7.) Place one of the supplied split loom tubing protection sleeves over the airline tubing of each spindle end to help protect against sharp edges inside the axle. Repeat steps 1-4 on remaining axle wheel ends.
8.) The air line from the spindle end going to the fitting on the axle fitting can now be cut. Make sure to cut the tubing long enough to reach just past the center of the axle. The airline will be attached to a tee fitting and then tie-wrapped to the center axle vent line. See Figure 13.
**Center Vent Line Installation**

Install the push lock fitting (1/4” NPT x 3/8” tubing) into the center tapped hole and tighten. Insert the supplied 37” X 3/8” nylon tubing with the duck-bill into the fitting. The vent line should be oriented so the duck bill is pointing upward and toward the rear of the trailer. Secure the tubing with tie wraps to the near by brake lines or other structure.

![Diagram of Center Vent Line Installation](image)

- **Tie Wrap Air Line T-Fitting from Hubcaps to Center Vent Line After Installed**
- **Air Line Tubing to Center**
- **Split Loom Tubing**
- **Nut**
- **Grommet**
- **Fitting Body**

*Air Line from hubcap to center of axle is cut after the hubcap is installed and the fitting on axle has been tightened. Cut hose long enough to go to center of axle. Tie wrap center vent line and air line from hubcap to the fitting of the center vent line.*
**Axle Plug Installation**

1.) Apply wheel end lubricant (Oil or Grease) to inner diameter (hexagonal surface) and outer diameter of axle plug.

2.) Install the axle plug using the axle plug installation tool. The tubing passes through the center of the axle plug which is then inserted into the hole on the installation tool. Align the axle plug with the axle spindle and push leading edge of axle plug into spindle bore.

3.) Now place the face of the installation tool against the axle plug and using a hammer, gently hit the handle of the installation tool and seat the axle plug flush with the end of the spindle end. Be careful to drive the axle plug in as straight and even as possible to keep plug from being cocked in bore. Repeat this step on remaining axle wheel ends. Small amount of wheel end lubricant can be applied to the rubber to help aid in installing axle plug.

4.) Using a tubing cutter, square the end of the airline coming out of the axle after removing the masking tape. Leave 5-6" of tubing sticking out of the spindle for easier installation of the Aeris® hubcap. See Figure 14.

**Aeris® Hubcap Assembly Installation**

1.) Place the hubcap gasket over the tubing before inserting it into push lock fitting on hubcap. If you are installing a grease application hubcap, make sure to follow recommended manufacturing guidelines for putting grease in bearings before you install the hubcap.

**IMPORTANT:** Make sure grease is applied before installing grease hubcap if hubcap is a grease application.

2.) Install the tubing into the push lock fitting on the Aeris® hubcap. Push firmly on to ensure the tubing is fully seated. Now push the hubcap and excess airline back into the axle spindle until the flange of the hubcap is flush with the hub. As the tubing is being pushed back into the axle make sure it doesn’t kink or bend.

3.) Align hubcap gasket with bolt holes on hubcap and install bolts. Install all bolts and snug down until hubcap is seated against the hub. When all bolts are snug use a torque wrench to finish tightening bolts to correct specification. Tighten bolts using a star pattern as shown in figure 15. Torque bolts to 12-16 ft. lbs. See Figure 15 and 16.
4.) Pull gently on the air line coming out of the axle until you feel it get tight. Now push the pass through fitting body down the air line and tighten it into the axle.

5.) Next push the rubber O-ring and the pass-through cap down on the tubing to the fitting.

6.) Before you tighten the pass through cap, push 4-5" of airline back into the axle, making sure not to kink the air line. This will allow enough slack in the air line to remove the Aeris® hubcap later.
7.) Tighten the pass through cap on the fitting. Do not over tighten.

8.) Using a tubing cutter, cut airline coming out of the closed pass through fitting on the axle 5” past the center of the axle vent hole. You want to make sure you have enough airline to attach to your tee fittings. See Figure 17.

9.) Repeat same procedures on remaining ends of all spindles. Make sure when feeding airline tubing into axle it heads towards the correct spindle end.

**IMPORTANT:** Make sure to leave some slack in end of line when cutting for the hubcap airline fitting. If hubcap needs to be removed you will need enough slack to unbolt the hubcap and be able to remove the airline from the air fitting.

10.) Depending on your hubcap type, Remove plug on hubcap and fill with oil to appropriate levels for safe operation. Allow oil levels to stabilize and add oil until at correct levels for each hubcap.

**IMPORTANT:** Make sure oil levels in each hubcap are at the recommended levels for safe operation before using the trailer. Fill and allow oil to settle then check oil levels again. Add as needed to reach the recommended levels.
Control Box Installation

1.) Install control box mounting bracket with hardware provided. Mounting bracket can be mounted flush against the back of bracket, flush against top of bracket to a cross member using top mounting holes or welded to the frame. If welding, weld the bracket to the frame before attaching the control box to the bracket. Choose to best option for your application and a location that protects the control box from rocks, debris, etc as much as possible. If trailer has a slider frame make sure bracket is mounted on cross member inside the slider frame box.

2.) Once mounting bracket is in place, install the control box to the bracket using hardware provided.

3.) Mount the control box with the door facing the back end of the trailer if possible. This will help protect it from road debris. If this is not possible mount the control box in a location that allows access to the door, but is as free from as many hazards as possible. Do not mount control box near tires. Control box should be mounted as high under the trailer as possible to keep debris from the road from hitting it and water from getting inside box if trailer is backed into loading dock that may be holding water. See Figure 18, 19.

4.) The control box has several mounting options. In all mounting options the 5/16” sealing washer, lock nuts and flat washers must be used. The sealing washer is always on the inside of the box.

   A.) Attach the box (without the bracket) directly to a cross member or frame section using the three 5/16” mounting holes in the bottom of the box. Be sure to leave room at the top for the door to open up.

   B.) Use the mounting bracket provided with the Aeris® system. The bracket can be mounted using the holes on the side of the bracket or the holes in the top flange. The control box can then be bolted to either side of the bracket (holes are symmetrical).
C.) The mounting bracket can be welded to the trailer if desired, but the frame must have clearance holes of the 5/16” mounting hardware (nut and flat washer) on the outside of the box. The box must be removed from the bracket before welding and the welded area must have some anti-corrosion treatment such as cold-zinc paint.

D.) Proper assembly of washers to avoid water intrusion as shown below.
E.) Make sure the latches are closed and a zip tie is installed after the unit is completely assembled and tested. Please refer to the picture below.
Connecting Air Lines to Control Box: Standard System (See Fig. 23 for SmartSense® Installation)

1.) After the hubcap is tightened down, push the rubber grommet on the air line down against the body of the fitting and tighten the nut. Take the tubing from each spindle end and insert it into the air line tee fitting over the center of the axle. It may be necessary to trim off excess tubing going to the center of the axle. Repeat this step on all axles.

2.) Insert end of tubing into tee fitting on rear axle and run tubing to the front axle tee fitting and insert into front axle tee fitting. Make sure to leave enough airline tubing from rear axle to the front axle for axles that move Independent of each other to distribute load weight. Use tie-wraps to attach tubing to stationary areas to keep tubing from dragging or getting hooked on anything while truck is moving.

3.) On the front axle you will need to insert another tee fitting into the airline to connect the air supply to outlet side on the control box. All airlines connected to the hubcap from each axle will be hooked up to the outlet side of the control box mounted under the trailer: See Figure 20, 21 and 22. See Figure 23 for SmartSense® installation.

4.) Recommended to route and tie wrap airlines coming off the axles to existing wiring or tubing going towards the location where the control box is mounted making sure airlines won’t be rubbing against any sharp edges that may damage airlines.

5.) Center vent lines should be tied up under trailer so that duck bill vent is vertical and so that duck bill won’t risk being under water if trailer is parked in a loading bay that may hold water. Make sure to tie wrap center vent line to the trailer in an area that isn’t a moving component which could risk it being pulled on. Vent line may be wrapped around axle if needed, just make sure duck bill is facing vertically and then tie wrap vent line to fitting coming of the axle to hold it in place.
Tie-Wrap the Fitting to the Center Vent Line on Both Axles

Inserted tee fitting receives air supply from the outlet on the control box

Figure 21

Standard System Installation (See Figure 23 – for SmartSense® Installation)

Rear Axle Fittings

Front Axle Fittings

Figure 22

Standard System Installation (See Figure 23 – for SmartSense® Installation)
Air Lines to Compressed Air Tank

**IMPORTANT:** Open petcock valve on compressed air tank to release air pressure from tank. Once compressed air is drained from the tank, close the petcock valve.

1. Remove large 3/8” Plug from side of compressed air tank.
2. Install the 3/8” NPT-M x 1/4” NPT-F bushing.
3. Install the 1/4” nipple.
4. Install “Inlet” side of the Pressure Protection Valve on nipple.
5. Install the 90° swivel elbow 1/4” NPT-M X 1/4” tube/DOT fitting to “outlet” side of PPV.
6. Run a piece of 1/4” tubing from the 90° swivel elbow to the “Inlet” side of the control box fitting.
7. Make sure the mini ball valve on the “inlet” side of the control box is in the open position. See Figure 22a, item 9.

---

**Item Description**

1. **Air tank**
   - Trailer Air Tank
2. **Outlet Air Supply of Control Box**
   - Attach air lines from Aeris® hubcap to “Outlet” side of control box
3. **Inlet Air Supply of Control Box**
   - Attach air lines from PPV to “inlet” side of control box
4. **Pressure Protection Valve**
   - Required; 70 psi minimum closing pressure
5. **Air Supply From Tractor**
   - Air supply hooked to air tank coming from the tractor compressor
6. **Aeris® Hubcap Axle Air lines**
   - Air line from Aeris® hubcap axle air lines hooked to “Outlet” on control box
7. **1/4” Airline “Tee” Fittings**
   - 1/4” tube tee airline fittings to hook air lines from axles to air tank
8. **Control Box**
   - Air lines and electrical wiring run to control box for Aeris® system
9. **Mini Ball Valve**
   - Air shut on/off valve. Must be in “Open” position for Aeris® system to work

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**Figure 22a**
**SmartSense®**

If you are installing an Aeris SmartSense® system, the airline tubing sections are not connected together with tee fittings. Instead, each section of tubing runs in a continuous length from each wheel end to the corresponding outlet port on the bottom of the Control Box. The manifold inside the Control Box is labeled with the wheel end designation above the outlet port. **See Figure 23 for a detailed diagram.**

**SmartSense® Air Line Attachment**

(Left to Right) Road Rear = Black  
Road Front = Green  
Curb Front = Blue  
Curb Right = Red

*Control box not to scale. Some components not shown for clarity.*
Tire Hose Installation

Attach air hoses to the hubcap and the inner and outer valve stems. The hose with the 180° fitting attaches to the outer valve stem. Turn the valve stem swivel nut on the fitting until the rubber gasket just makes contact with the valve stem, then turn the nut 1/2 turn more to ensure proper sealing. Now push the hubcap end of the hose into the brass hose adapter fitting and turn the nut until the fitting is snug. For final tightening, turn the check port stem and the nut at the same time using only your fingers. Do not use any type of valve stem extensions. See Figure 24 and 26.

If installing on Super-Single wheel, only one hose is required. See Figure 25.

**IMPORTANT:** Make sure the hose(s) are not touching the tire rim. Contact between the hose and the rim could damage the rim.

**IMPORTANT:** Make sure the tire hose(s) are not stretched so tightly that it puts a strain on the valve stem or the hubcap fittings. Clock wheels if hoses are not aligned with the valve stems.
Light Kit and Wiring Installation

Once the control box is mounted and the airlines are connected to the controller, the electrical wiring and light kit can be installed. Improper wiring or operation of Aeris® system can lead to the driver not being aware the tire inflation system is malfunctioning.

This section gives the basic instructions on wiring the Aeris® system and routing the electrical wiring from the power source to the control box and light. The hardware kit is shown below with items needed to install wiring and light. See Figure 27.

2.) Make sure to run the 3-wire cable along the same path the airline from the brakes is routed. This will insure you have enough slack in the electrical line to keep it from being damaged by any moving parts on trailer. See Figure 29.
IMPORTANT: Do not allow 3-wire cable to rub against a sharp edge of a hole or straight edge of a structural cross member as cable is being routed through the trailer. Use tie-wraps to secure to existing airlines or electrical lines.

**Standard Aeris®**

- **Flow Meter**
- **Ground White** (Only used on E-kits or Mechanical Control Boxes)
- **Power Brown**
- **Light Control Yellow**
- **Butt Splice**
- **ABS**
- **GND Pin 1**
- **Pin 7**

**Aeris SmartSense®**

- **Flow Meter**
- **Ground White**
- **Control Box Plugged into Receptacle on ABS Wiring Harness**
- **Light Control Yellow**
- **Power Brown**
- **Driver Warning Lamp**
- **GND Pin 1**
- **Light Power Black to ABS**
- **Pin 7**

When your control box looks like the one shown in Figure 32, the above instructions may be disregarded since these steps are now done at the time of manufacture.

**NOTE:** Figure 31 shows the 7-pin connector as viewed from the front. The breakout of this connector varies based on the manufacturer. It is important to verify which connection terminal on the back of the unit corresponds to pin 1 and pin 7 on the front. This verification is best done with a continuity tester.
Figure 32

Simply plug in the factory installed wiring harness (1) into the pre-molded cable end furnished with the kit (2).

3.) Take the light and using the pigtail provided place the ring terminals of the pigtail onto the 2 posts on the back of the light. White pigtail on "-" terminal; Black pigtail on "+" terminal. Tighten two nuts onto ring terminals.

4.) Now on the other end of the pigtail, remove the 2 plugs in the ends of the connectors and plug in the wire extension. Make sure connectors snap in place fully. White wire to White pigtail; Black wire to Black pigtail.

5.) Mount light in front corner of or side of trailer. Mount light in location where driver can see it in driver's side view mirror. NO IMPACT TOOL can be used during installation of the Driver Warning Lamp.

6.) Mount indicator light to trailer using the self-tapping screw provided. Make sure to tuck wires inside back of light and where wires come out of slots provided to keep from pinching wire when mounted.

7.) Secure wire to trailer using p-clamps. Make sure wiring is not hanging down to catch on anything.

**IMPORTANT:** Make sure that as you are installing the p-clamps you run the wire with a drip loop in the bottom of cable below the 7-pin connector box. This keeps water from running down the cable from the indicator light into the electrical box. See Figure 34.
8.) Remove the cover to the trailer 7-pin connector box. See Figure 33.

9.) Route the wire from the light into the 7-pin connector box. Route enough wire into the box to have about 8” of wire sticking out and cut off excess wire. Strip about 5” of the wire jacket from the wire using a jacket stripping tool. Make sure not to cut jacket so deep you cut into the insulation on the wires.

10.) Strip off 1/4” of insulation from the black and white wire.

11.) Route end of the 3 conductor wire into the 7-pin connector box. Strip the wire jacket from around the wires back about 6” using a jacket stripping tool. Make sure not to cut jacket so deep you cut into the insulation on the wires.

12.) Next strip 1/4” of insulation from the white, brown and yellow wires.

13.) Crimp a ring terminal on the end of the white wire from the light and crimp a ring terminal on the white wire going to the control box. Both white wires coming to the 7-pin connector box should have a ring terminal crimped to them. Use a terminal crimping tool.

14.) Crimp ring terminal to the brown wire.

15.) Crimp butt splice to the black wire from the light and the yellow wire from the 3-wire cable going to the control box.

16.) Remove the nut from (Pin 1 biggest pin) on the 7-pin connector terminal and place both the white wires from the 3-wire cable and the light on the post. Replace nut and tighten down.

17.) Remove the nut from (Pin 7) on the 7-pin connector and connect the brown wire from the 3-wire cable to the post. This will be the center pin and will carry the power on systems that support ABS.

18.) Next tuck all the wires inside the 7-pin terminal box and install the cover back on the box. Make sure you don’t trap any wires between the cover and the box that could cause the wire to short.

19.) Use tie wraps to attach 3-wire cable and wire cable from the light indicator to the airlines leading out of the 7-pin connector box. See Figure 34.

IMPORTANT: Make sure you leave enough slack in the wires in the connector box to be able to remove the cover and work on the wiring without pulling any of the wiring lose from connectors when removing the cover of the box.
Decal Location

Place decals on front of trailer by the indicator light and on the inside and outside of the control box cover. See Figure 35.
System Installation Check

**Standard Aeris® System**

After the Aeris® system is completely installed, but before the trailer is put back into service, all air system connections need to be checked for leaks. Apply a soapy/water solution to all air connections. If bubbles appear at any fitting or air connection, repair the connection. Follow Instructions Below:

1. Make sure the petcock valve on the trailer air tank is closed.
2. Fill the trailer air system and set all tire pressures just below the target pressures.
3. Ensure the mini ball valve on the controller box is in the open position.
4. Verify the trailer is connected to 12-volt power source.
5. If the indicator light remains on and the system continues attempting to inflate one or more tires to the proper pressure but can’t due to the inability to maintain adequate pressure, the system has a leak and must be repaired.
6. Verify the oil level in each wheel end is at the correct level.

**Aeris SmartSense® System**

After the Aeris SmartSense® system is completely installed, but before the trailer is put back into service, all air system connections need to be checked for leaks. Apply a soapy/water solution to all air connections. If bubbles appear at any fitting or air connection, repair the connection. Follow Instructions Below:

1. Make sure the petcock valve on the trailer air tank is closed.
2. Fill the trailer air system and set all tire pressures just below the target pressures.
3. Ensure the mini ball valve on the controller box is in the open position.
4. Verify the trailer is connected to 12-volt power source.
5. Verify the “Green” light on the circuit board in the control box is blinking. If after applying 12-volts you don’t see a light blinking, disconnect the 12-volt power source and check all wire terminal connections and connections to the 7-pin connector box correct. Light will be blinking “Red” if no pressure exists or flow is passing through the meter.
6. Indicator light on trailer should come on and blink 3 times. If insufficient pressure exists in the system, LCD will read “2” if all is well the lights will stop blinking and the LCD will read “0”; if low flow exists, the light on that channel will stay on constantly and if high flow exists the light will blink constantly. Please refers to figure below
7. If the indicator light remains on and the system continues attempting to inflate one or more tires to the proper pressure but can’t due to the inability to maintain adequate pressure, the system has a leak and must be repaired.
8. When releasing air from a tire to check that system indicates flow properly, remember that flow must continue for 10 seconds before the warning lamp will show a flow alert. The flow must also be stopped for at least 10 seconds before the alert will turn off.
9. For driver warning light and control box visual alerts description please refers to figure 36.
10. Verify the oil level in each wheel end is at the correct level.
Aeris® SmartSense® Visual Alerts

1. Service Alert Icon – This wheel end took air multiple times. The maintenance/service alert resets after 5 hours of good event free time and at least 2 power on events.

2. Real Time Alert LED
   - If Constant – Low Flow Rate
   - If Flashing – High Flow Rate
   - If Off – No Flow

3. Trip Alert Icon – This wheel end took air during the trip (resets on power up)

4. Signal Icon – This icon indicates the wireless signal strength from the control box

5. Binding Icon – This indicates that the warning lamp has connected to a control box

6. Status Code ‘0’ – The system is operating properly
   - Status Code ‘1’ – The warning lamp has not communicated with the control box for 15 minutes
   - Status Code ‘2’ – The system senses low inlet pressure (ball valve at control box may be shut off)
ABS Power Grid Harness Option for Aeris® SmartSense® Option

The Aeris ABS SmartSense® Wiring Harness designed to save valuable time installing the Aeris® system. The advanced technology of the Aeris SmartSense® system does not require installers to run a cable the length of the trailer to connect the driver warning lamp to the control box, thus saving installation time and complexity.

The ABS power harness consists of a 12 inch extension to the 5 wire ABS Power harness found in most trailers equipped with ABS. Power (blue) and ground (white) wires are brought out on a 15 foot extension, which ends in a female connector that plugs into the control box. Note that this harness is only practical for use in SmartSense applications because the single port version of Aeris® requires a wired connection to the warning lamp.

A small amount of silicon grease can be used inside the connector on a SmartSense ABS harness wired system to keep contacts in pristine condition.
Maintenance

Check Tire Pressure

Although the Aeris® tire inflation system is designed to detect and fill a tire that is leaking during vehicle operation, STEMCO recommends you inspect the tires for normal wear and damage at regular intervals and check the tire pressure as follows.

1.) Remove the metal cap from the check port that is provided on each hose. See Figure 38.

![Check Port](Figure 38)

2.) Check pressure going to each tire using a pressure gauge.
   - If the tire pressure is lower than expected, replace fill cap and hand tighten.
   - If the tire pressure is lower than expected:
     - Verify that the shut off valve is in open position.
     - Check all air connections with soapy water solution. If bubbles can be seen, tighten fittings and check again with soapy water solution.
   - If pressure is too high release some pressure from the tire dropping the tire pressure below the desired target pressure. The Aeris® system will automatically inflate the tire to correct setting.

3.) Each tire should be checked for correct air pressure a minimum of once every 3 months.
Regulator Setting

It's recommended that you check the regulator pressure once every 3 months to verify the regulator is still set at the desired pressure setting. To set the regulator pressure, follow the steps below.

**IMPORTANT:** Confirm the trailer's air tank pressure is higher than the tire's target pressure!

1.) Open the cover to the control box.
2.) Remove the metal cap on the check port fitting on the regulator.
3.) Check the pressure with an accurate gauge, such as a master gauge.
4.) If the pressure is correct, replace metal cap and close the lid. Be sure NO AIR is FLOWING to any of the tires to get an accurate reading.
5.) If the pressure is above or below the desired setting, adjust the pressure using the adjustment knob. See Figure 39.
6.) If the pressure is “low” pull up on the regulator's knob to unlock. Turn the knob clockwise to increase the pressure. Allow the pressure to stabilize then check the pressure 2-3 times to verify correct pressure. If the pressure is correct, push the knob back down to lock in place and replace the metal cap.
7.) If the pressure is “high” turn the knob counter-clockwise to decrease the pressure. Allow the system to stabilize and check the pressure 2-3 times to verify correct pressure. Continue to decrease or increase the regulator until the desired pressure is achieved.

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**Pressure Check Port**

**Pressure Adjustment Knob:**
Clockwise to Increase Pressure
Counter-Clockwise To Decrease Pressure

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**Figure 39**
# Troubleshooting

## Aeris® Control Box Installation Debugging Techniques

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aeris® Platform</th>
<th>Symptom</th>
<th>Solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SmartSense® Only</strong></td>
<td>With the entire system connected apply power, the red light on the circuit board does not blink at power-up.</td>
<td>Check power connections +12 and ground continuity to the circuit board and 7-pin connector. After power up works successfully, take off the power lead and the light lead and connect them together – the light should light up. If both light and board power up then connect all wires back to the circuit board and verify that system powers up and blinks three times on a power up event both on the circuit board and at the front light on the trailer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aeris SmartSense® &amp; Aeris Standard</strong></td>
<td>After successful power-up, take off the power lead and the light lead and connect them together – the light does not light up.</td>
<td>The connection to the light yellow line is not connected or the light is not grounded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SmartSense® Only</strong></td>
<td>The lights on the circuit board blink but the light on the trailer does not.</td>
<td>There is a circuit board problem.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **SmartSense® Only** | Both the light on the trailer and the light on the board blink 3 times, then... | ...the blinking stops: This is a valid state. ...
...the light on the front of the trailer goes to a solid ‘on’ state: This is a valid state (see the next symptom). ...
...the light consistently blinks: This is a valid state (see the next symptom). ...
...the light on the trailer keeps blinking but in an inconsistent manner like two fast then one slow: The pressure has not reached the control box yet. Check that the air control valve is in the on position. If the control valve is in the on position then the brake system has not received enough air to open the PPV valve yet. Wait for the air brake tank to fill or check glad hands are connected to the tractor. |
| **Aeris SmartSense® & Aeris Standard** | The light stays on solid or blinks consistently in timing. | System is Taking Air. If no hissing is heard coming out of the air connections then the tires are low and simply taking air. System is Taking Air. If hissing is coming from an air connection, fix the leak. |
| **SmartSense® Only** | The light goes out after the first 3 blinks. | System is functioning and tires are aired up. |
| **SmartSense® Only** | The Binding icon is not present, there is a code of “1” on the warning light, and no signal strength. | The binding icon indicates that the warning lamp has found a control box to talk to. If this icon is not present, there is either a problem with the control box, warning lamp, or the signal strength. |
| **SmartSense® Only** | Low Signal Strength | The wireless signal strength icon indicates how well the warning lamp picks up the signal from the control box. It is similar to the signal indicator on a cell phone, more bars (maximum of 3) mean a better signal. It would be helpful to check the signal strength of several completed trailers to see if low signal may be the issue. The trailers do not need to be powered up to check this, the signal strength from the last time the units was powered will be stored on the display. An icon with less than 2 bars is a concern. |
| **SmartSense® Only** | Operation code of ‘1’ | Indicates a signal issue (no communication with the control box for 15 minutes). It could be due to a binding error (if the binding icon is not present) or it could indicate low signal strength issues (if the binding icon is present) |
| **SmartSense® Only** | Operation code of ‘0’ or ‘2’ | Indicates the warning lamp is communicating with the control box. If any completed trailers have a ‘1’ stored in the display and the binding icon shown it would indicate that the lamp is not communicating well with the control box. |
Warranty Information

All warranty returns may be sent to:
STEMCO
300 Industrial Blvd.
Longview, TX 75691
Attn: Warranty Dept.

CERTIFICATIONS

FCC (USA)
This unit complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

FCC ID: SRA-830025X

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

NOTE: The manufacturer is not responsible for any radio or TV interference caused by unauthorized modifications to this equipment. Such modifications could void the user’s authority to operate the equipment.

The antenna(s) used for this transmitter must be installed to provide a separation distance of at least 20 cm from all persons and must not be co-located or operating in conjunction with any other antenna or transmitter. Users and installers must be provided with antenna installation instructions and transmitter operating conditions for satisfying RF exposure compliance.

Should you need any additional assistance with any problems or issues please contact STEMCO Customer Service at (800) 527-8492.

INDUSTRY CANADA

Contains/Contient IC: 7413A-B30025X

NOTICE: This device complies with Industry Canada licence-exempt RSS standard(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.

Cet appareil est conforme avec Industrie Canada RSS standard exempts de licence (s). Son fonctionnement est soumis aux deux conditions suivantes: (1) cet appareil ne peut pas provoquer d’interférences et (2) cet appareil doit accepter toute interférence, y compris les interférences qui peuvent causer un mauvais fonctionnement du dispositif.

INDUSTRY CANADA

Contains/Contient IC: 7413A-B30

This product meets the applicable Industry Canada technical specifications.
Le présent matériel est conforme aux specifications techniques applicables d’Industrie Canada.

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