“Musts” For NH₃ Break-Away Couplers by Ed Kaiser

General “Musts”:
- Follow manufacturer’s installation, maintenance, and operation recommendations/specifications.

“Musts” for Double Swivel Brackets & Flat Bar:
- **Swivel Brackets**: Install bushings in both swivel bracket bolted connections to allow break-away (BA) coupler to move freely - generally 80 degrees side to side and 30 degrees up and down.

- **Flat bar Installation**:
  - Two bolted connections to toolbar support.
  - Single bolted connection to swivel bracket. This bolted connection is not to be connected to the toolbar support.

“Musts” for Other Components & Items Installed On/Around BA Coupler:
- Bleed valves on both sides of BA Coupler.
- 350-400 psi/NH₃ rated hydrostat/rain cap when withdrawal hose is mounted on the toolbar and not the nurse tank.
- Discharge “jumper” hose must be long enough to allow full movement and separation of BA coupler-see mfg. specs.
- Toolbar components/components in assembly with the BA coupler must not impede the operation of the BA coupler.
- Display manufacturer-specific connection/disconnection instructions to be readily visible near the BA coupler. Parker-Pioneer requires both the aluminum ring around the BA coupler and the instruction decal posted near their BA coupler.

Recommended placement of BA Coupler:
- Attach support holding the BA coupler assembly to toolbar frame - NOT the toolbar hitch.
- Position BA coupler as close as possible over the toolbar/nurse tank hitch connection point.
- Position BA coupler at least 24 inches above the toolbar/nurse tank hitch connection point during field application.
- The goal of the last two recommendations is for maintaining consistent hose length through turns, free from entanglement.

Questions? Contact area NH₃ Inspector or St. Paul Office
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