

PRODUCT BULLETIN #438

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Date: March 25, 2021

Subject: Tow Assist Product Launch

Dexter is pleased to announce a revolutionary new product for the trailer towing industry, in collaboration with Bosch. Tow Assist™ brings automotive intelligence and technology to the trailer industry by providing Anti-Lock Braking (ABS), Sway Mitigation, Towable Odometer and trailer diagnostics. Tow Assist will make trailer towing safer for all skill levels, recording and reporting mileage that users can use to manage service intervals. Easy to install, Tow Assist provides OEMs a platform for the future of towing safety.



KEY PRODUCT FEATURES



While common in passenger and commercial cars for their safety features, Dexter and BOSCH have collaborated to bring **ABS to Electric Trailer Brakes**. In the event of emergency braking, high braking levels would normally make the tires lock up, causing the tires to skid and potentially losing control of your trailer. ABS Brakes regulate the braking levels to reduce instances of tire lockup and increase traction with the road. Because the system is monitoring braking at each wheel, it will allow the unit to provide consistent braking and unit stability.



SWAY MITIGATION keeps the trailer in-line with the tow vehicle. The system stabilizes the trailer by responding to irregular movement above 40 miles per hour. The sway mitigation feature keeps the trailer stable in the event of high winds, being passed by a semi-trailer, etc. Tow Assist goes a step further in the event of an evasive maneuver with Lane Change Control, keeping the unit safely in line so drivers can keep their eyes on the road.



Keep track of your trailer or fleet with Tow Assist's **TOWABLE ODOMETER**. The odometer is accessible through the Tow Assist mobile app (available on both iOS and Android devices). The system collects and retains the mileage, diagnostic code information, and unit VIN code (if entered by OEM). Users can now accurately schedule service intervals.

PRODUCT OFFERING

The Tow Assist system is available on a 12" x 2" electric brake platform; D60/D70 Sprung or #11/#12 Torflex axles rated up to 7,000 lbs. Tow Assist brakes include wheel speed sensors and ABS tone rings built into the hub-drums. The 12" x 2" Tow Assist brakes are only available with the Nev-R-Adjust® feature. The Tow Assist hub drums are available with an 8 on 6.5" wheel bolt pattern with 1/2", 9/16" and 5/8" wheel stud sizes and offered in E-Z Lube® or oil lubrication. The hub-drums are clearly marked on the exterior surface with "NO REBORE ALLOWED". This will differ from all other products as the drum will need to be replaced if the braking surface is worn excessively.

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TOW ASSIST INSTALLATION KITS

The remaining system components are included in installation kits. Each of which includes a Tow Assist control module (ECU), power and axle wire harness, and an indicator light. Power harnesses are available in 15', 30' and 40' lengths. Axle harnesses are available in single, tandem or triple axle configurations, and can manage up to a 42" axle spread. Both harnesses replace existing chassis wiring for brakes, while providing worry-free weather-proof connections underneath the trailer.

Kit selection requires knowing the number of axles and length of unit. Reference chart to the right.

KIT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
K58-115-01	SINGLE, 15' POWER, SINGLE INSTALL KIT
K58-215-01	TANDEM, 15' POWER, SINGLE INSTALL KIT
K58-230-01	TANDEM, 30' POWER, SINGLE INSTALL KIT
K58-240-01	TANDEM, 40' POWER, SINGLE INSTALL KIT
K58-330-01	TRIPLE, 30' POWER, SINGLE INSTALL KIT
K58-340-01	TRIPLE, 40' POWER, SINGLE INSTALL KIT



INDICATOR LAMP

Each kit includes an indicator lamp. It is a key element of the Tow Assist system, as it is the visible means to providing the driver with feedback regarding system function. The indicator lamp uses a two-color LED lamp (green & amber) to notify drivers the system is on, proper function, as well as any diagnostic codes.

Diagnostic code will be displayed to users through the indicator lamp at start or while in tow, and can be communicated in more detail through the app. The information is a new way to display system critical information to drivers in real time, keeping drivers safe.

ECU CONFIGURATION

Upon proper installation of the Tow Assist system each unit requires configuration of the ECU. The configuration is needed to identify the axle count (single, tandem, triple), tire size (rolling radius) and unit VIN number. The process is accomplished with Dexter's Tow Assist Configuration Kit K58-032-00. The kit includes software and connection cable for OEMs ordering the Tow Assist system.

Distribution of the configuration kit and software is limited to customers offering Tow Assist within their product line.

TOW ASSIST WARRANTY

The Tow Assist warranty consists of 2 years on electronic components and 5 years on braking components (brake assembly & hub-drum) from the day of purchase.

TOW ASSIST LITERATURE

This new product will be supported with an array of literature including Product Flyers, POP Trailer Labels, Installation Manual, Trailer Hang Tag and Owner's Manual. All items will be available through our literature portal, which you can gain access to by contacting your Account Manager.

To find out more about the Tow Assist, please visit www.dexteraxle.com/towassist.

TOW ASSIST AVAILABILITY

Product integration is being focused within the OEM markets, with aftermarket kits to be released at a future date. Dexter will support product and installation training to ensure proper product performance.

Service replacement parts for Tow Assist are available, while Aftermarket sales for the entire system are not yet available.

Ongoing development of Tow Assist will include additional brake and hub-drum sizes within additional axle capacities.

Contact your Account Manager for any additional questions or further assistance.

Mark Nave Market Manager