



## Technical Bulletin

### Lubrication Intervals for All Meritor Rear Drive Axles

#### How to Obtain Additional Maintenance and Service Information

Refer to Maintenance Manual 1, Preventive Maintenance and Lubrication; TP-9539, Approved Rear Drive Axle Lubricants; or the appropriate maintenance manual for the axle. To obtain these publications, call ArvinMeritor's Customer Service Center at 800-535-5560, or visit the Tech Library on our website at [arvinmeritor.com](http://arvinmeritor.com).

#### Lubrication Analysis Recommendations

Meritor recommends using a lubricant analysis program. Perform lubricant analysis at regularly-scheduled preventive maintenance intervals. Refer to Maintenance Manual 1, Preventive Maintenance and Lubrication, pages 1 and 2, for drive axle differential oil analysis guidelines.

#### Check and Adjust the Oil Level

##### WARNING

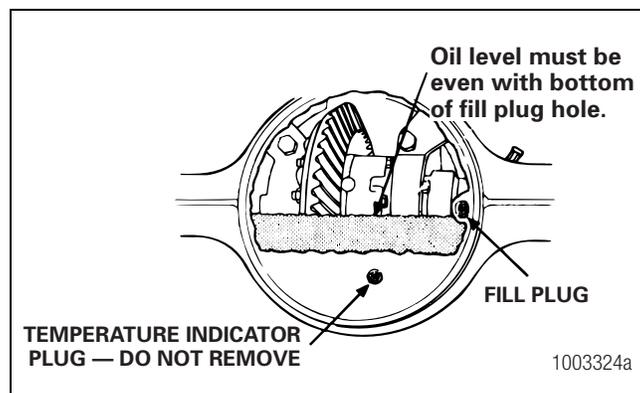
To prevent serious eye injury, always wear safe eye protection when you perform vehicle maintenance or service.

Park the vehicle on a level surface. Block the wheels to prevent the vehicle from moving. Support the vehicle with safety stands. Do not work under a vehicle supported only by jacks. Jacks can slip and fall over. Serious personal injury and damage to components can result.

Check the oil level when the axle is at room temperature. When hot, the oil temperature may be 190°F (88°C) or more and can cause burns. A correct level is not obtained when the axle is warm or hot. Serious personal injury and damage to components can result.

1. Wear safe eye protection.
2. Park the vehicle on a level surface. Place blocks under the front wheels to prevent the vehicle from moving. The axle must be cold or near room temperature.

3. Clean the area around the fill plug. Remove the fill plug from the differential carrier or the axle housing bowl, depending on the axle. Do not remove the temperature indicator plug.
4. Check the oil level. The level must be even with the bottom of the fill plug hole.



5. Install the fill plug. Tighten the plug to 35-50 lb-ft (48-67 N•m).  


Vocation or Vehicle Operation	Linehaul	Intercity Coach	City Delivery, School Bus, Fire Truck, Motorhome	Construction, Transit Bus, Refuse, Yard Tractor, Logging, Heavy Haul, Mining, Oil Field, Rescue
<b>Initial Oil Change</b>	Not required			
<b>Check Oil Level</b> Add the correct type and amount of oil as required.	Every 25,000 miles (40 000 km) or the fleet maintenance interval, whichever comes first	Every 25,000 miles (40 000 km) or the fleet maintenance interval, whichever comes first	Every 10,000 miles (16 000 km), once a month or the fleet maintenance interval, whichever comes first	Every 5,000 miles (8000 km), once a month or the fleet maintenance interval, whichever comes first <sup>1</sup>
<b>Petroleum-Based Oil</b> Change on Axles with or without Pump and Filter System	Every 100,000 miles (160 000 km) or annually, whichever comes first	Every 100,000 miles (160 000 km) or annually, whichever comes first	Every 50,000 miles (80 000 km) or annually, whichever comes first	Every 25,000 miles (40 000 km) or annually, whichever comes first
<b>Synthetic Oil</b> Change on Axles with or without Pump and Filter System <sup>2</sup>	Every 500,000 miles (800 000 km) or every 4 years, whichever comes first	Every 250,000 miles (400 000 km) or every 4 years, whichever comes first	Every 250,000 miles (400 000 km) or every 3 years, whichever comes first	Every 100,000 miles (160 000 km) or every 2 years, whichever comes first <sup>3</sup>
<b>Filter</b> Change on Axles with Pump and Filter System	Every 100,000 miles (160 000 km)	Every 100,000 miles (160 000 km)	Every 100,000 miles (160 000 km)	Every 100,000 miles (160 000 km)

<sup>1</sup> For continuous heavy-duty operation, check the oil level every 1,000 miles (1600 km).

<sup>2</sup> These intervals apply to approved semi-synthetic and full-synthetic oils only. For a list of approved extended-drain axle oils, refer to TP-9539, Approved Rear Drive Axle Lubricants.

<sup>3</sup> The change interval for transit bus can be increased to **150,000 miles (241 400 km) or 3 years**, whichever comes first, contingent upon:  
a. documented 10% fleet oil sampling with results below Meritor guidelines per Maintenance Manual 1, Preventive Maintenance and Lubrication,  
b. a minimum of 6 magnets in the housing (the 61163/71163 drive axles come standard with 6 magnets in the housing),  
c. use of approved extended-drain interval lubricants per TP-9539 Approved Rear Drive Axle Lubricants (the drive axles excluded are RC-26-633/634 and RC-26/27-720).



**ArvinMeritor™**

Meritor Heavy Vehicle Systems, LLC  
2135 West Maple Road  
Troy, MI 48084 USA  
800-535-5560  
arvinmeritor.com

Information contained in this publication was in effect at the time the publication was approved for printing and is subject to change without notice or liability. Meritor Heavy Vehicle Systems, LLC, reserves the right to revise the information presented or discontinue the production of parts described at any time.

Copyright 2005  
ArvinMeritor, Inc.  
All Rights Reserved

Printed in the USA

TP-0460  
Revised 02-05  
(16579/24240)