Packing a Tapered Roller Bearing With Grease

Proper lubrication greatly increases the life of bearings, especially in adverse conditions.

The following are the endorsed instructions for tapered roller bearing lubrication.

**By Hand**

1. Thoroughly clean your hands or wear a new pair of latex gloves.
2. Place a golf-ball sized amount of grease into your palm.
3. Using your opposite hand, push the large end of the bearing cone assembly into the grease, forcing grease between the rollers, cage and cone.
4. While pushing grease into the large end, rotate the entire cone assembly until the grease is forced out evenly around the entire small end.
5. Smear excess grease on the outside of the bearing cone assembly.

**Using a Mechanical Grease Packer**

1. Thoroughly clean your hands or wear a new pair of latex gloves.
2. Place the bearing cone assembly, small end down, into the grease packer funnel.
3. Plug the bore of the large end of the bearing cone assembly with the conical retainer.
4. Firmly press down on the conical retainer. This forces the grease between the rollers, cage and cone.
5. Smear excess grease on the outside of the bearing cone assembly.

**NOTE:** You should allow enough space in the housing for heat dissipation so excess grease throws clear from the bearing. Contain the grease around the bearing. The housing should normally be 1/3 to 1/2 full of grease during bearing assembly. Too much grease in the housing may cause high temperatures and excess churning of the grease.

Skill Level: Easy  |  Special Tools: Grease Packer
Timken Commercial Vehicle Wheel Bearing Grease

This hi-temp grease contains anti-wear and water-resistant additives and corrosion inhibitors, offering excellent protection in challenging environments.

Features/Benefits

- For disc and drum applications
- NLGI GC-LB certified
- NLGI No. 2 lithium complex
- Timken OK Load – 55 pounds
- Extreme pressure (EP) additives
- Corrosion inhibitors
- Water-resistant additives
- Tub: Reusable, high-impact container with screw-top lid
- Wide operating temperature range –40°F to 300°F (–40°C to 149°C)

WARNING

Failure to observe the following warnings could create a risk of death or serious injury.

Never spin a bearing with compressed air. The components may be forcefully expelled. Proper maintenance and handling practices are critical. Always follow installation instructions and maintain proper lubrication. A bearing/component should not be put into service if its shelf life has been exceeded.

CAUTION

Failure to follow these cautions may result in property damage.

Use of improper bearing fits may cause damage to equipment. Do not use damaged bearings.

TechTips is not intended to substitute for the specific recommendations of your equipment suppliers.

Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this writing, but no liability is accepted for errors, omissions or for any other reason.

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The Timken team applies their know-how to improve the reliability and performance of machinery in diverse markets worldwide. The company designs, makes and markets high-performance mechanical components, including bearings, gears, chain and related mechanical power transmission products and services.