CONGRATULATIONS!

You have invested in the best implement of its type on the market today.

The care you give your Bush Hog implement will greatly determine your satisfaction with its performance and its service life. We urge a careful study of this manual to provide you with a thorough understanding of your new implement before operating, as well as suggestions for operation and maintenance.

If your manual should become lost or destroyed, Bush Hog will be glad to provide you with a new copy. Order from Bush Hog, P. O. Box 1039, Selma, Alabama 36702-1039. Most of our manuals can also be downloaded from our website at www.bushhog.com.

As an authorized Bush Hog dealer, we stock genuine Bush Hog parts which are manufactured with the same precision and skill as our original equipment. Our trained service personnel are well informed on methods required to service Bush Hog equipment, and are ready and able to help you.

Should you require additional information or assistance, please contact us.

YOUR AUTHORIZED BUSH HOG DEALER

BECAUSE BUSH HOG MAINTAINS AN ONGOING PROGRAM OF PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT, WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS IN DESIGN OR CHANGES IN SPECIFICATIONS WITHOUT INCURRING ANY OBLIGATION TO INSTALL THEM ON UNITS PREVIOUSLY SOLD.

BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT SOME PHOTOGRAPHS IN THIS MANUAL WERE TAKEN OF PROTOTYPE MODELS, PRODUCTION MODELS MAY VARY IN SOME DETAIL. IN ADDITION, SOME PHOTOGRAPHS MAY SHOW SHIELDS REMOVED FOR PURPOSES OF CLARITY. NEVER OPERATE THIS IMPLEMENT WITHOUT ALL SHIELDS IN PLACE.
# PZ & CZ ZERO TURN MOWER
## GRASS CATCHER
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### RETAIL CUSTOMER’S RESPONSIBILITY UNDER THE BUSH HOG WARRANTY

It is the Retail Customer and/or Operator’s responsibility to read the Operator’s Manual, to operate, lubricate, maintain and store the product in accordance with all instructions and safety procedures. Failure of the operator to read the Operator’s Manual is a misuse of this equipment.

It is the Retail Customer and/or Operator’s responsibility to inspect the product and to have any part(s) repaired or replaced when continued operation would cause damage or excessive wear to other parts or cause a safety hazard.

It is the Retail Customer’s responsibility to deliver the product to the authorized Bush Hog Dealer, from whom he purchased it, for service or replacement of defective parts which are covered by warranty. Repairs to be submitted for warranty consideration must be made within forty-five (45) days of failure.

It is the Retail Customer’s responsibility for any cost incurred by the Dealer for traveling to or hauling of the product for the purpose of performing a warranty obligation or inspection.
LIMITED WARRANTY

Bush Hog warrants to the original purchaser of any new Bush Hog equipment, purchased from an authorized Bush Hog dealer, that the equipment be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of one (1) year from date of retail sale. The obligation of Bush Hog to the purchaser under this warranty is limited to the repair or replacement of defective parts.

Replacement or repair parts installed in the equipment covered by this limited warranty are warranted for ninety (90) days from the date of purchase of such part or to the expiration of the applicable new equipment warranty period, whichever occurs later. Warranted parts shall be provided at no cost to the user at an authorized Bush Hog dealer during regular working hours. Bush Hog reserves the right to inspect any equipment or parts which are claimed to have been defective in material or workmanship.

DISCLAIMER OF IMPLIED WARRANTIES & CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES

Bush Hog’s obligation under this limited warranty, to the extent allowed by law, is in lieu of all warranties, implied or expressed, INCLUDING IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE and any liability for incidental and consequential damages with respect to the sale or use of the items warranted. Such incidental and consequential damages shall include but not be limited to: transportation charges other than normal freight charges; cost of installation other than cost approved by Bush Hog; duty; taxes; charges for normal service or adjustment; loss of crops or any other loss of income; rental of substitute equipment, expenses due to loss, damage, detention or delay in the delivery of equipment or parts resulting from acts beyond the control of Bush Hog.

THIS LIMITED WARRANTY SHALL NOT APPLY:

1. To vendor items which carry their own warranties, such as engines, tires, and tubes.
2. If the unit has been subjected to misapplication, abuse, misuse, negligence, fire or other accident.
3. If parts not made or supplied by Bush Hog have been used in connection with the unit, if, in the sole judgement of Bush Hog such use affects its performance, stability or reliability.
4. If the unit has been altered or repaired outside of an authorized Bush Hog dealership in a manner which, in the sole judgement of Bush Hog, affects its performance, stability or reliability.
5. To normal maintenance service and normal replacement items such as gearbox lubricant, hydraulic fluid, worn blades, or to normal deterioration of such things as belts and exterior finish due to use or exposure.
6. To expendable or wear items such as teeth, chains, sprockets, belts, springs and any other items that in the company’s sole judgement is a wear item.

NO EMPLOYEE OR REPRESENTATIVE OF BUSH HOG IS AUTHORIZED TO CHANGE THIS LIMITED WARRANTY IN ANY WAY OR GRANT ANY OTHER WARRANTY UNLESS SUCH CHANGE IS MADE IN WRITING AND SIGNED BY BUSH HOG’S SERVICE MANAGER, POST OFFICE BOX 1039, SELMA, ALABAMA 36702-1039.

Record the model number, serial number and date purchased. This information will be helpful to your dealer if parts or service are required.

MODEL NUMBER __________________________

SERIAL NUMBER __________________________

DATE OF RETAIL SALE __________________________

MAKE CERTAIN THE WARRANTY REGISTRATION CARD HAS BEEN FILED WITH BUSH/SELMA, ALABAMA
IMPORTANT FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS* CONCERNING EMPLOYERS, EMPLOYEES AND OPERATIONS.

*(This section is intended to explain in broad terms the concept and effect of the following federal laws and regulations. It is not intended as a legal interpretation of the laws and should not be considered as such).

U.S. Public Law 91-596 (The Williams-Steiger Occupational and Health Act of 1970) OSHA

This Act Seeks:
"...to assure so far as possible every working man and woman in the nation safe and healthful working conditions and to preserve our human resources..."

DUTIES
Sec. 5 (a) Each employer—
(1) shall furnish to each of his employees employment and a place of employment which are free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm to his employees;
(2) shall comply with occupational safety and health standards promulgated under this Act.
   (b) Each employee shall comply with occupational safety and health standards and all rules, regulations and orders issued pursuant to this Act which are applicable to his own actions and conduct.

OSHA Regulations
Current OSHA regulations state in part: “At the time of initial assignment and at least annually thereafter, the employer shall instruct every employee in the safe operation and servicing of all equipment with which the employee is, or will be involved.” These will include (but are not limited to) instructions to:

Keep all guards in place when the machine is in operation;

Permit no riders on equipment;

Stop engine, disconnect the power source, and wait for all machine movement to stop before servicing, adjusting, cleaning or unclogging the equipment, except where the machine must be running to be properly serviced or maintained, in which case the employer shall instruct employees as to all steps and procedures which are necessary to safely service or maintain the equipment.

Make sure everyone is clear of machinery before starting the engine, engaging power, or operating the machine.

EMPLOYEE TRACTOR OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Securely fasten your seat belt if the tractor has a ROPS.
2. Where possible, avoid operating the tractor near ditches, embankments, and holes.
3. Reduce speed when turning, crossing slopes, and on rough, slick, or muddy surfaces.
4. Stay off slopes too steep for safe operation.
5. Watch where you are going, especially at row ends, on roads, and around trees.
6. Do not permit others to ride.
7. Operate the tractor smoothly - no jerky turns, starts, or stops.
8. Hitch only to the drawbar and hitch points recommended by tractor manufacturers.
9. When tractor is stopped, set brakes securely and use park lock if available.

Child Labor Under 16 Years Old
Some regulations specify that no one under the age of 16 may operate power machinery. It is your responsibility to know what these regulations are in your own area or situation. (Refer to U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment Standard Administration, Wage & Home Division, Child Labor Bulletin #102.)
Safety Alert Symbol

This Safety Alert Symbol means: “ATTENTION! BECOME ALERT! YOUR SAFETY IS INVOLVED!”

This symbol is used to call attention to safety precautions that should be followed by the operator to avoid accidents. When you see this symbol, carefully read the message that follows and heed its advice. Failure to comply with safety precautions could result in death or serious bodily injury.

Safety Signs  Signal Words

The signal words DANGER, WARNING, AND CAUTION are used on the equipment safety signs. These words are intended to alert the viewer to the existence and the degree of hazard seriousness.

⚠️ DANGER

White letters on RED

This signal word indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

⚠️ WARNING

Black letters on ORANGE

This signal word indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury. It may also be used to alert against unsafe practices.

⚠️ CAUTION

Black letters on YELLOW

This signal word indicates a potentially hazardous situation exist which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury. It may also be used to alert against unsafe practices.
1-1 Introduction

We are pleased to have you as a return Bush Hog customer. Your GC-350 or GC-350CZ has been designed to give you a low maintenance, simple, and effective way to collect the grass clippings or perform spring/fall clean-up with your Bush Hog Professional or Commercial ZT mower. This manual is provided to give you the necessary instructions to properly mount and operate the GC-350 or GC-350CZ on your ZT mower. Please read this manual thoroughly. Understand what each control is for and how to use it. Observe all safety decal precautions on the machine and noted throughout the manual.

Note: all references made to right, left, front, rear, top or bottom are as viewed from the normal operator's position on the ZT mower.

Note: All work must be performed with the engine off and the parking brake locked.

1-2 Description

The GC-350 & GC-350CZ Grass Catcher, Figure 1, are designed for turf maintenance where there is a need to collect the grass clippings as the ZT mower cuts the turf. It is also good for picking up leaves and twigs in pre-season and post-season clean-up.

The blower, mounted on the right side of the unit, uses a belt and gearbox system from the engine PTO shaft. Drive train protection comes through belt slippage. The blower draws grass clippings from the discharge area of the cutter deck up to the collection bags mounted over the rear portion of the ZT frame. The operator can engage the blower with a push of the over-center linkage on the right side of the unit. Once the bags are full of clippings, the top of the unit can be pivoted up and each of the three bags can be removed individually for emptying.

SECTION II
PREPARATION FOR USE

2-1 Modification Of Zero Turn

Carefully remove wrapping from around shipping crate and open boxes. Remove and sort all parts for easy identification.

NOTE: Before each step of assembly it will help to study the exploded drawings on pages 7, 8, and 9.

From the underside of the ZT engine remove the bolt and bushing from the electric clutch assembly. Replace these parts with the pulley and 7/16”-20 x 3-3/4” bolt that will power the grass catcher blower. Note that the center of the hub that is extended should be upward toward the engine. (Figure 3) Torque the bolt to 55 ft.lbs.
2-2 Attaching Frame Mount Brackets

Mount the lower frame weldment, which supports the bagger unit, to the rear bumper as shown in Figure 4 below using 3/8" -16 x 3" bolts, flatwashers and 3/8" Nylock nuts.

Figure 4 Lower Frame Weldment

2-3 Belt Installation

Loosen the two bolts that secure the gear box assembly to the PTO mount plate. (Figure 6) Loosen the adjustment bolt until the gear box assembly is at its far left adjustment (the gear box is moved towards the mower’s engine pulley). Install the Kevlar cord belt from the engine pulley to the lower gear box pulley. To tension the drive belt, turn the adjustment bolt clockwise until there is 1” of deflection, with 10-11 lbs. of pressure between the engine pulley and the gear box pulley. Once the correct tension on the belt is achieved, tighten the (2) bolts that secure the gear box assembly and re-attach the shield. (Figures 6 and 7)

Figure 6 Gear Box Attaching Bolts

Fasten the mounting bracket to the rear frame as shown using 3/8" x 2-1/8" x 2-1/4" long U-bolts and Nylock nuts. NOTE: Remove 3/8" x 7/8" bolt and nut and replace with 3/8" x 1-1/4" bolt and Nylock nut. Position the PTO Assembly pivot pins into mounting bracket slots and insert pin to fasten into place. Secure with hair pin clip.
2-4 Cam Assembly Adjustment

The cam assembly, which controls the blower belt tension, comes from the factory pre-adjusted. If the belt is too tight, or becomes too loose, remove the hair pin clip from the belt tension rod and pull the “L” end of the rod out of its hole in the cam assembly. The tension rod may then be screwed out to tighten the belt or screwed in to loosen the belt. Replace the “L” end into the top hole in the cam and replace the hair pin clip. Adjust the cam stop bolt to allow the cam to rotate slightly over center when the blower is disengaged. (Figure 8) Attach PTO handle to it’s mount at your desired position using three 1/4" x 3/4" bolts and Nylock nuts.

Figure 8 Belt Tension Rod  Cam Stop Bolt Is Below The Cam Assembly

2-5 Attachment Of Upper Frame Assembly To The Lower Frame

NOTE: During this step it is suggested that two people install the Top Frame to the Lower Frame. Using two people to raise the top frame, lift the top frame above the lower frame making sure the bag frames are located away from the engine as shown in Figure 9. Slide the top frame vertical tube into the lower frame vertical tube aligning the holes. Insert the 1/2" X 2-1/2" clevis pin through the holes and fasten with a hair pin clip.

Figure 9 Top Frame  Clevis Pin  Lower Frame

2-6 Attachment Of Top Assembly To The Upper Frame Assembly

Align the pivot brackets of the top assembly to the pivot points on either side of the upper frame assembly. Place a fender washer between each pivot point and fasten each side by using a 5/16" - 18 x 3/4" bolt and nyloc nut. When fastening, leave the nut slightly loose so that the top can pivot freely. (Figure 10)

Figure 10 Top Assembly Locates Here

5/16" - 18 x 3/4" Bolt

2-7 Attachment Of The Boot To The Mower Deck

Remove the mower’s discharge chute from the cutter deck. The boot rod will replace the discharge chute pin and create a mounting surface for the deck boot. Slide the boot rod through the lugs on the cutter deck and fasten into place with a hair pin clip as shown in Figure 11.

Attach the boot plate to the boot using 3/8 x 1” carriage bolts inserted from the inside of the boot. This will prevent grass from building up on the bolts. Use 3/8” serated, flanged lock nuts on the bolts, but do not tighten at this time. With the rod in place, slide the boot plate tabs under the rod. Allow the boot to rotate down and rest against the cutter deck opening. Adjust the boot location to cover the deck opening and tighten the lock nuts. (Figure 11)

Figure 11 Boot  Hair Pin Clip  Rod

Lower Hose  Boot Plate
2-8 Adjustment Of The Lengths Of Hoses

The hoses in steps 2-9 and 2-10 must be cut to fit your machine. Follow the steps and do not cut the hoses until you have tried them on your particular machine. Remember that the hoses must be long enough to allow for enough clamping surface between the inlet, blower assembly and the deck boot.

2-9 Attachment Of The Upper Hose

Fasten the inlet to the plastic top by sliding the inlet from the inside of the top to the outside and snap into place. Slide a 5" - 6" upper hose clamp onto both ends of the 6" upper hose, then slide one end of the hose onto the inlet. Make sure there is about a 2" overlap between the hose end and the container inlet. Proceed to slide the opposite end of the hose onto the outlet of the blower assembly as shown in Figure 12. Make sure both ends of the hose are clearly attached to the inlet and the blower assembly inlet. Tighten the hose clamps.

2-10 Attachment Of The Lower Hose To The Blower Cone

Fasten the blower cone to the blower housing by using two 5/16" - 18 x 2-1/2" bolts and jam nuts. Slide a 7"-8" hose clamp over each end of the lower hose, then proceed to slide the lower hose onto the blower cone. Tighten the hose clamps. (Figure 12)

2-11 Attachment Of The Lower Hose To The Boot

Take the unattached end of the lower hose and slide it over the circular end of the boot. Use the lower hose clamp to secure the hose to the boot. (Figure 12) Tip: Before securing the clamp, rotate the hose counter-clockwise (away from yourself) approximately 1” to aid in retaining boot to mower deck.

2-12 Front Weight Assembly

NOTE: Before installing front weights on PZ models, install the locking pins in the front axle for either the pivoting or fixed position.

Loosely bolt the right hand caster mounting bracket and the right hand weight mounting bracket together with a 1/2” x 1” serrated flanged locknut.

Mount this assembly as shown with a 3/8” x 3-1/2” x 2-9/16” U-bolt and a 3/8” serrated flanged locknut. Repeat this same procedure on the left hand side. NOTE: Location of the U-bolts will vary slightly from the picture below with different model mowers.

Using a jack, center the 3” x 4” x 27” weight between the casters as shown. Fasten the weight to the mounting brackets using 1/2” x 5-1/4” x 3-5/16” U-bolts and 1/2” serrated flanged locknuts. After positioning the weight, tighten all fasteners to the required torque.

On the CZ units, add a 3” x 4” x 16” long weight kit as shown. Lift weight with a jack and center on the larger weight that was previously mounted. Fasten with two 1/2” x 5-5/16” x 7” U-bolts and 1/2” Nylock hex nuts.

2-13 Installation / Removal Of Collection Bags

To install the bag onto the ring, first install ring end caps onto both ends of the ring. Place the seam openings of the cloth bag over the slot brackets and slide the bag onto the ring. Secure the bag to the ring with the bag ring end caps. (Figure 14)
the bag onto the bag ring openings and slide the bag around the ring until the slot bracket in the bag ring is protruding through the opening in the bag. Do this for each of the three bags. (Figure 14)

Install the completed assemblies onto the support frame and close the hood. Fasten both draw latches to hold the hood closed. (Figures 15 & 16)

NOTE: After bags have been installed, the engine exhaust outlet may need to be redirected downward to prevent over heating the bags.

To empty the bag, remove the bag ring by lifting and sliding rearward. Grasp the loop on the bottom of the bag, turn it upside down and empty the collected debris. Repeat for the other bags. Reinstall all bags, close the hood and reattach the draw latches.

Plastic lawn and leaf bags, 55 gallon size, may be used inside the cloth bags. Be sure to leave enough plastic bag hanging over the frame so the plastic bag can be twist tied before emptying.
SECTION III
OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

3-1 General Safety

Only qualified people familiar with this operator’s manual and the mower’s operator’s manual should operate this machine.

3-2 Operation And Tips On Mowing

A. Perform BEFORE EACH USE maintenance list in paragraph 4-1.
B. Start mower engine.
C. While seated in the operator’s seat, rotate the engagement handle of the collection system away from the mower. Continue to rotate the handle until it stops in an over center position. With the blower engaged, you can proceed to operate the control levers of the mower.
D. With the mower engine at high rpm, engage the mower deck.

NOTE: If the collection system does not appear to be collecting the grass clippings, disengage the deck and blower, then engage the parking brake and turn the engine off. Proceed to Section 3-3 and review Section 2-6 in this manual.

To obtain the maximum effectiveness from your collection system the tips listed below should be followed:

* Watch your speed - Normal conditions will allow a speed of up to approximately 5 mph, but thick, heavy damp conditions will require reduced ground speed.
* Mow with sharp blades - A sharp blade cuts cleaner.
* Wet grass and leaves will decrease effectiveness and will increase horsepower requirements.
* Mow at higher cutting heights - Remove and mulch no more than 2” of grass length with each mowing. (Experts recommend not cutting off more than 1/3 of the grass blade length at any given time.)
* Mow twice, at different height settings, (high, then low), if grass is extra tall.
* Remember that horsepower requirements will vary with the mowing conditions such as type and height of turf grass, moisture content, amount of leaves, whether the terrain is flat or hilly, etc.

3-3 Disengagement Of The Blower

A. To disengage the blower, rotate the engagement handle towards the mower.

WARNING: To determine when the collection bags are full, follow the following steps:

A. Stop the forward movement of the mower.
B. Disengage the mower deck.
C. Disengage the blower.
D. Engage the parking brake.
E. Once the parking brake has been engaged, and only then, walk behind the mower and check the collection bags by lifting the hood. The load in the bags should not exceed the height of the installed bags.
F. To release bags from the frame, lift the bag ring from the tab on the bagger frame, slide the bag out and turn the bag over to deposit the clippings.
G. Follow steps on page 9 to re-attach the bags to the bagger.

NOTE: Do not allow collection bags to become over filled as potential damage may occur to your equipment. Also, be sure to clean the hood screen as needed.

SECTION IV
MAINTENANCE

4-1 Maintenance Checklist

Before each use:
1. Check blades and spindles to be sure that no foreign objects, such as wire or steel strapping bands, are wrapped around them.
2. Inspect blades for wear. Replace if necessary. If it is necessary to sharpen blades, remove the blades from the spindles before sharpening. DO NOT sharpen blades while still attached to the mower.
3. Make sure all shields are in place and in good condition. Repair or replace any missing or damaged shields.
4. Perform lubrication per paragraph 4-2.
5. Listen for abnormal sounds, which might indicate loose parts, damaged bearings, or other damage. Correct any deficiency before continuing operation.
6. With the engine off, engage the blower assembly. Check the belt tension and inspect the pulley belt for cracks or tears.
7. Check for wear or deterioration of the upper or lower hoses and the bags. If there are any portions of the hoses or bags that have been torn or worn through, replace with genuine BUSH HOG parts.

After Each Use:
1. Clean all debris from machine especially from the bags, underneath the belt shields and off of safety decals. Replace any missing or illegible decals.
2. Inspect the unit for worn or damaged components. Repair or replace before next use. Any replacement component installed during repair shall include the component’s current safety decal specified by the manufacturers to be affixed to the component.
3. Check belt for proper tension.

4-2 Lubrication

NOTE: Use only white lithium base grease for lubrication of the shaft on the blower assembly.

1. On the initial use: Grease the fitting on the blower shaft.
2. Every 25 hours of use: Re-grease the grease fitting.
3. Every 200 hours of use: Check oil levels in gear box. Oil in gear box should cover the gears. If not, fill using an EP90 weight oil. 6 oz. will fill the gear box from empty.

Removal Of The Collection System For Non-Collection Mowing

If it is decided that a particular mowing area does not require that the grass clippings be collected, most of the collection system may be removed while allowing the lower frame weldment, PTO mounting bracket, and the engine pulley to remain on the ZT. (Refer to instructions and photographs on pages 5-8)

1. Loosen the belt tension adjustment bolt to allow removal of the drive belt from the engine pulley.
2. Remove the hair pin clip and rod from the boot. After disconnecting the boot from the deck, store the pin and clip in the lugs on the boot for safe keeping. NOTE: The original grass chute must be re-installed on the deck before operating the ZT.
3. Loosen the upper hose clamp from the hood inlet and slide the hose free from the inlet.
4. Remove the hair pin clip and pin from the PTO assembly and pull the assembly up and out of the mounting slots. Replace the pin and clip in the PTO assembly for safe keeping.
5. Remove the hair pin clip and pin that secures the top frame to the lower frame and lift the top frame and bags from the ZT. Store the hair pin clip and pin in the top frame.

Parts And Service Information

Bush Hog collection system owners should record the name and telephone number of their dealer. Your dealer will be happy to supply replacement parts, accessories and do any service or repairs to your collection system. If for any reason your dealer is unable to service your collection system or supply replacement parts, contact Bush Hog and include the following information from the serial number plate:

Model Number____________________
Serial Number____________________
SAFETY DECALS

To promote safe operation, Bush Hog supplies safety decals on all products manufactured. Because damage can occur to safety decals either through shipment, use or reconditioning, Bush Hog will, upon request, provide safety decals for any of our products in the field at no charge. Contact your authorized Bush Hog dealer for more information.
**TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS**

Proper torque for American fasteners used on Bush Hog equipment.

**Recommended Torque in Foot Pounds (Newton Meters).**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>WRENCH SIZE (IN.) &quot;A&quot;</th>
<th>BOLT DIAMETER (IN.) &quot;B&quot; AND THREAD SIZE</th>
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**METRIC**

Proper torque for metric fasteners used on Bush Hog equipment.

**Recommended torque in foot pounds (newton Meters).**

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<th>WRENCH SIZE (mm) &quot;A&quot;</th>
<th>BOLT DIA. (mm) &quot;B&quot;</th>
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*Use 75% of the specified torque value for plated fasteners. Use 85% of the specified torque values for lubricated fasteners.