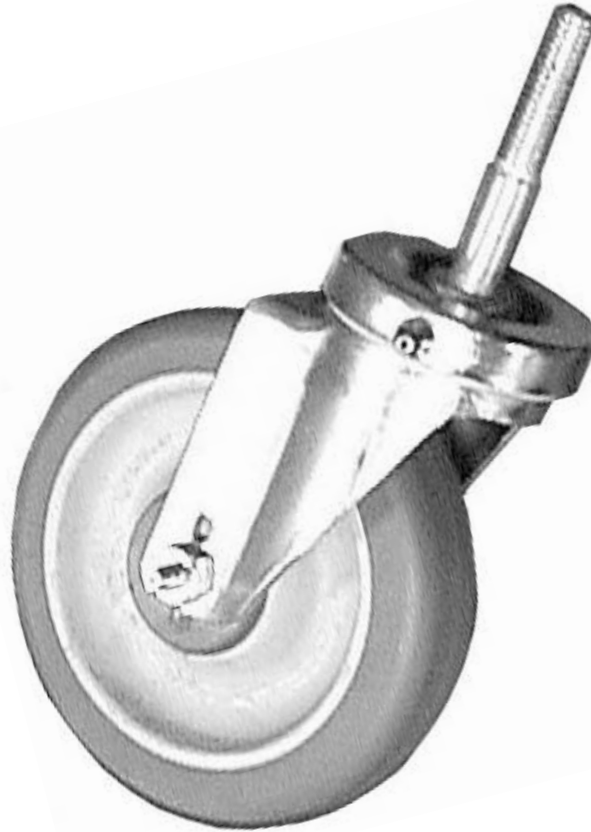
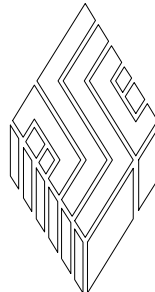


Service Manual



The Care and Maintenance of Casters



SSCI

Wheeling, IL (800) 323 7366

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Inquiries should be addressed to **Suburban Surgical Co., Inc.**
Wheeling, Illinois 60090, USA

General Information

Introduction



Suburban Surgical Company, Inc. manufactures the highest quality hospital and veterinary equipment on the market, using the highest quality casters available. Even the best casters will wear down eventually, however, a dedicated program of care and maintenance will give you the best service and long lasting durability you need from your equipment.

SSCI equipment features casters made by the most supportive manufacturer in the world. If proper preventive maintenance is not adhered to, even the best casters will eventually break down.

About this Manual

Every attempt has been made to insure that the information in this manual is correct and complete. SSCI, however, always welcomes our customer's suggestions for improvements to our products and associated publications.

SSCI Contact Information

Contact SSCI Customer Service by mail, telephone, or fax. The department is available from 8:30am to 5:00pm, Central Time, Monday through Friday. Closed holidays.

Address: Suburban Surgical Co., Inc.
275 Twelfth Street
Wheeling, Illinois 60090

Telephone: Illinois - (847) 537-9320, ext. 3518
Toll Free - (800) 323-7366

Fax: (847) 537-9061

Web: www.suburbansurgical.com

Parts Ordering Procedure

Order new equipment, accessories, and/or replacement parts directly through SSCI Customer Service. You can order by mail, telephone, or fax. Refer to *SSCI Contact Information on Page 3* for address, telephone, and fax numbers. When ordering, please provide the following information:

- Your name
- Company name
- Company account number
- Telephone number
- Fax number
- e-mail address
- Shipping address
- Billing address (if different from shipping address)
- Names, part numbers, and quantities of items being ordered
- Credit card number and expiration date, or other payment information
- Preferred method of shipment
- Information on whether the items are required on a normal or urgent basis

Warranty

Suburban Surgical Company, Inc. warrants the original purchaser that our products are of the highest standards in material and workmanship. Our stainless steel components are guaranteed to last a lifetime assuming they are used as intended, properly maintained and cared for. Mechanical, electrical, electronic, hydraulic, and any product's devices carry a one year warranty.

Items purchased by Suburban Surgical Company, Inc. from other manufacturers and incorporated into our equipment are covered by the respective manufacturer's warranties.

Warranties will not apply if it is determined by Suburban Surgical Company, Inc. that the equipment became defective due to an accident, misuse, abuse, improper maintenance, or alteration. Warranty freight charges are covered for the first year only.

Caster Care and Maintenance

General

This Service Manual provides you with a general maintenance guide for all SSCI equipment equipped with casters. SSCI carefully selects various types of casters to fit the applications and needs of each piece of equipment, for example, some casters have grease fittings and others do not; some casters have brakes and others do not. Please read this manual carefully and adapt your care and maintenance to suit the casters on your equipment.

Caster Safety Tips

Always remember, the most important safety step for casters is regular and proper maintenance. Users are responsible for the proper operation and maintenance of their equipment. Any piece of equipment will become inefficient and unsafe if abused or subjected to improper demands for which it was not designed. If equipment is regularly maintained and not abused, you will get the maximum safety and service performance from your casters. Always observe the following rules:

- Never overload the equipment.
- Never drop heavy loads on the equipment.
- Never subject the equipment to operation at high speeds.

These actions create severe impact and shock loads that can lead to wheel, caster, and equipment failure.

Inspection

Frames and Fasteners

Periodically turn the equipment on its end or side and check the following:

- Look for broken welds or deck boards.
- Tighten all loose bolts and nuts.
- Look for frame distortion caused by overloads and impact loads. Distorted frames can lead to wheel failure by placing disproportionate loads on one or two casters.
- On stem-type casters (bolted or riveted in place), make certain that the legs of the equipment are not bent, and that all mounting bolts are securely fastened.
- Always use locknuts or lockwashers when mounting casters.
- Be sure that casters with expanding applicators in tubular-framed equipment are firmly in place.

Wheels Check wheels for visible tread wear. Flat spots may indicate an accumulation of foreign material, such as string, thread, or hair, which can cause the wheel to bind. Remove the axle bolt and nut, if possible, and clean out foreign material, and check internal components for wear or failure. Reassemble if the parts are not damaged. Thread guards may be installed if foreign material is a continuing problem.

Loose casters and frozen wheels can also cause flat spots. Proper maintenance, especially tightening of bolts, proper lubrication, and replacement of damaged casters will enhance equipment rollability and tracking performance.

Badly worn or “chunked out” rubber tires can also cause erratic steering, bumping, load shifting, and damage to floors. We recommend that replacement casters, wheels, or bearings be kept on hand to reduce costly downtime.

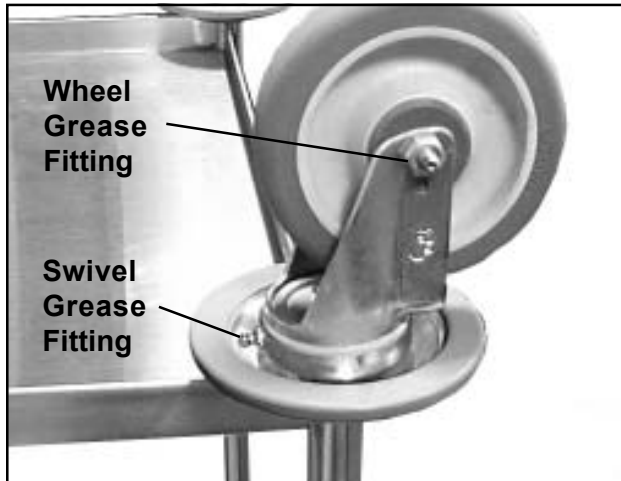
After the wheels have been inspected and repaired, be sure the axle nut is properly tightened. Use lockwashers or locknuts on all axles. If the caster axle is loose, tighten immediately. The wheel may lock up or become damaged if it is not straight in the caster horn.

Casters Check the swivel assembly for excessive play due to wear. If the swivel assembly is loose, replace the fork or the entire caster. If the caster has a king bolt and nut, make sure it is fastened securely. If the swivel does not turn freely, check for corrosion or dirt binding the raceways. Again, it may be necessary to replace the swivel assembly or the entire caster.

Brakes Check brakes and locks for proper operation. Apply brakes one at a time and attempt to move the equipment to make sure that each brake is not slipping or loose. If brakes slip due to worn or damaged wheels, replace the wheels immediately, and retest the brakes. If the brake mechanism itself is not operating properly, repair or replace it. Always retest brakes immediately after repair or replacement, before returning the equipment to use.

Lubrication

Some caster assemblies have grease fittings and some do not. On casters with grease fittings, lubrication is essential. The lubrication schedule will depend on your specific application and working conditions. Normal conditions warrant lubrication every six months, however, for wet or corrosive applications, monthly lubrication may be necessary.



Grease Fittings on a Typical Wheel/Caster Assembly

Regular lubrication adds to the life of wheel and swivel bearings. A little lube spillover to friction points on the wheel hub, thrust washer, and leg surface of straight roller bearing systems reduces drag and improves rollability.

On equipment subject to frequent washing (for example, case carts) caster lubrication may be required after each washing. Washing can actually wash the grease out of wheel and caster bearings. Special high-temperature, water-resistant lubricants may be used for these applications. If necessary, SSCI can provide stainless steel casters that require less maintenance.

Wheel/caster assemblies with grease fittings usually have two (refer to figure at left): one for the wheel and one for the swivel. Use enough grease to fill the bearing, but not so much that it oozes out of the grease seal. After applying the grease, turn the wheel or swivel several times in both directions to distribute the grease evenly.

Recommended Lubricants

SSCI recommends that you use either of the following greases when lubricating your cart casters:

- Citgo EP-1
- Exxon Beacon EP 1

Based on available information, these products are not expected to produce adverse effects on health when used for the intended application and the recommendations provided in the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) are followed. MSDS's are available via the Internet.

***For more information on SSCI's fine line of products
and accessories, talk to your SSCI sales representative.***



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