

MICHELIN® Energy Guard Bracket Bending Member Damages and Disengagement

This bulletin describes:

- The components and potential damages to the Energy Guard Bracket Assembly
- Periodic Inspection Guidelines
- The Warranty & Claims Process

On the Energy Guard Skirt system there are brackets (Figure 1) that hold the skirt panel to the trailer. It has been found that under certain usage cases the stainless steel bending members/leaf spring(s) can become disengaged with the lower slider bracket. Disengagement can lead to cracking of the leaf spring material. On rare occasions this has led to the loss of the bending member/leaf spring(s). Improper installation of the slider bracket can exacerbate the issue.

If leaf springs are found disengaged, and without damage to the system (Figure 2), they can be returned into the slider bracket, by following the guidelines in the owner's manual. If the slider bracket was improperly installed (Figure 3), it should be reinstalled in the correct configuration, per the owner's manual.

If damages are observed, it is recommended to remove the bracket assembly from service and replace it with new bracket assembly and new hardware (See warranty process below). The installation procedure for a new bracket assembly can be found in the Energy Guard Owner's Manual.

MICHELIN ENERGY GUARD SKIRT BRACKET *ASSEMBLY COMPONENTS*

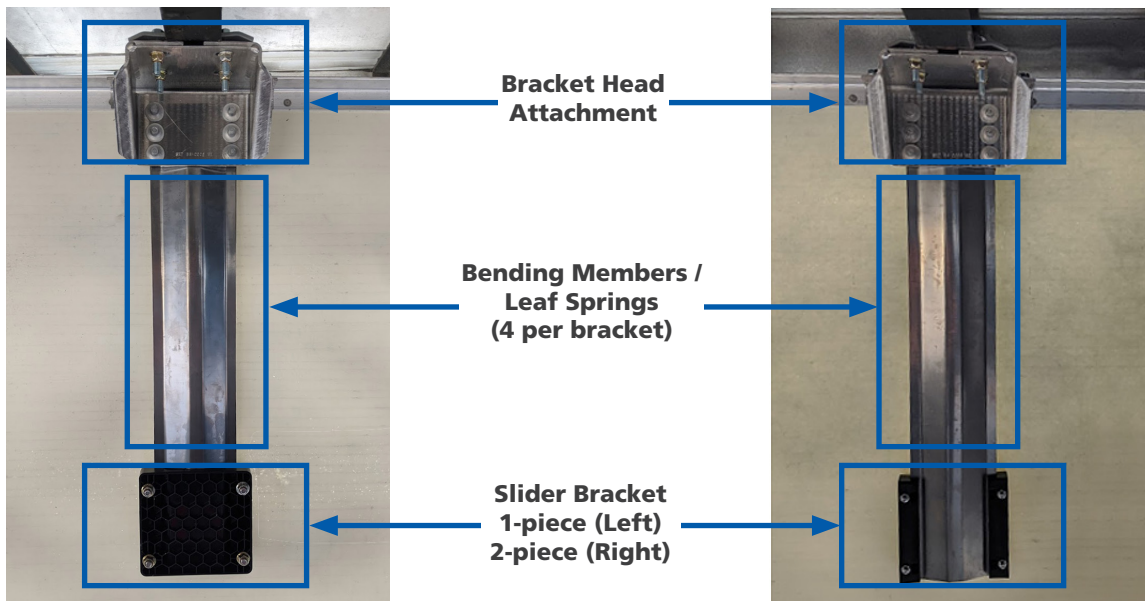


Figure 1. Bracket Assembly Description

MICHELIN ENERGY GUARD SKIRT BRACKET

BRACKET BENDING MEMBER DAMAGES AND DISENGAGEMENT

Figure 2. Examples of Leaf Spring Disengagement and Damage.



Leaf springs disengaged with damage



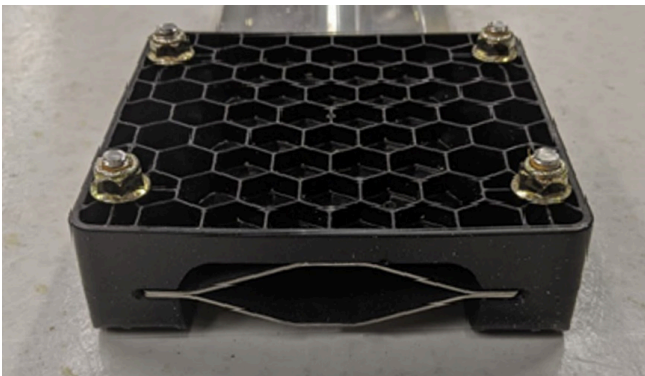
Leaf springs disengaged but undamaged



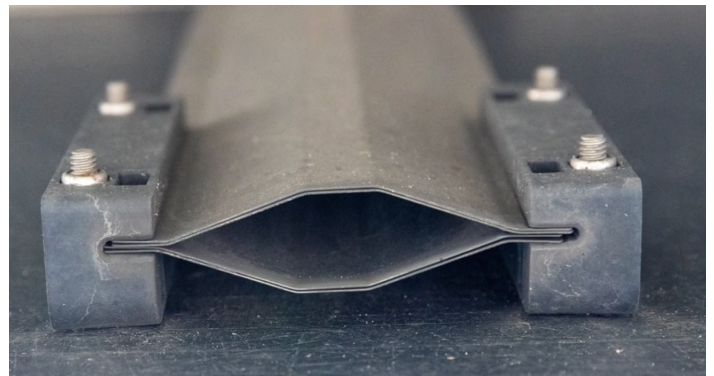
Damaged/broken leaf springs

PROPER INSTALLATIONS OF 1-PIECE AND 2-PIECE SLIDERS

Figure 3. Proper Installation of the Slider Brackets



Properly installed 1-piece sliders



Properly installed 2-piece sliders

Figure 3. Slider Bracket was Improperly Installed.



Incorrectly installed 1-piece slider



MICHELIN ENERGY GUARD SKIRT BRACKET
INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Michelin recommends the following inspection and maintenance guidelines defined in the MICHELIN® ENERGY GUARD INSTALLATION GUIDE AND OWNER'S MANUAL.

See US : business.michelinman.com/tips-suggestions/documents or CA: business.michelinman.com/tips-suggestions/documents for more information.

INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE

- Inspect the Michelin Energy Guard Solution components prior to each trip and as part of regular periodic maintenance practices.
- Utilize the post installation checklist provided in the owner's manual to supplement fleet specific periodic maintenance practices.

In addition to the recommendations in the owner's manual it is requested to inspect the bracket attachment area, bending member and sliding member of the skirt bracket assemblies for the following:

- Proper installation of fasteners, beam clamps, slider bracket orientation, and mounting hardware
- Loose or missing components
- Signs of premature wear including heavy abrasion, cracking, deformation and/or corrosion
- Disengagement of bending members/stainless steel springs with slider bracket
- Damages to the skirt panel, skirt panel aluminum F-channel, trailer cross-members, or skirt bracket attachment areas that would prohibit proper replacement of new bracket components.

WARRANTY

- Michelin Energy Guard Aerodynamic kits are covered under the MICHELIN® ENERGY GUARD AERODYNAMIC SOLUTION LIMITED WARRANTY.
- Consult the Energy Guard Owner's Manual for details.
- If you have a claim, please contact your Michelin Consumer Care Representative at: (888) 971-3803.

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