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HOOK-BASE INSTRUCTION MANUAL



Receiving instructions:

After delivery, IMMEDIATELY remove the packaging. Inspect the product closely to determine whether it sustained damage during transport. If damage is discovered, immediately record a complete description of the damage on the bill of lading. If the product is undamaged, discard the packaging.

NOTES:

- 1) Compliance with laws, regulations, codes, and non-voluntary standards enforced in the location where the product is *used* is exclusively the responsibility of the owner/end-user.
- 2) VESTIL is not liable for any injury or property damage that occurs as a consequence of failing to apply either:
 - a) Instructions in this manual; or b) Information provided on labels affixed to the product.

Vestil is not responsible for incidental or consequential damages caused by failure to apply the instructions in this manual.

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Signal Words:

This manual classifies personal injury risks and situations that could lead to property damage with SIGNAL WORDS. A safety message appears with a signal word that describes an improper/dangerous use of the product. The signal word indicates the seriousness of the injury that could result from the described use.



WARNING

Identifies a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, **COULD** result in **DEATH** or **SERIOUS INJURY**.



NOTICE

Identifies practices likely to result in product/property damage, such as operation that might damage the product.

Each person who assembles, installs, uses, or maintains this product should read the entire manual in advance and fully understand the directions. If after reading the manual you do not understand an instruction, ask your supervisor or employer for clarification, because failure to adhere to the directions in this manual might result in serious personal injury.

Hazards of Improper Use:

Vestil diligently strives to identify foreseeable hazards associated with the use of its products. However, material handling is inherently dangerous and no manual can address every conceivable risk. The end-user ultimately is responsible for exercising sound judgment at all times.



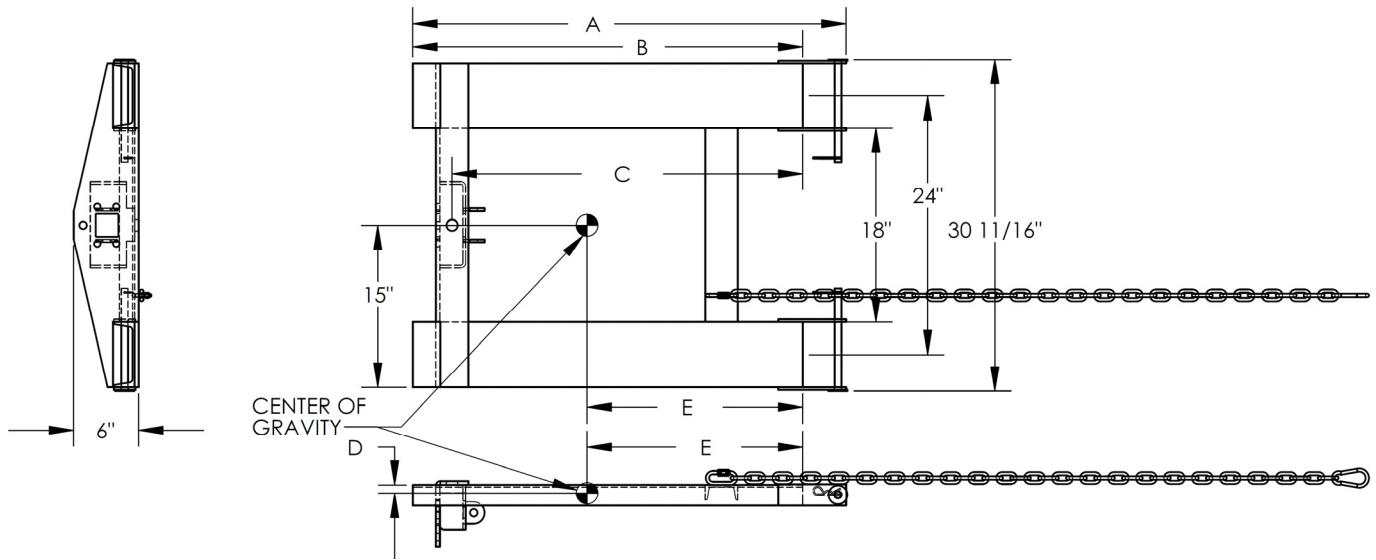
WARNING

Improper or careless use of this product might result in serious personal injuries.

- **Failure to read and understand the entire manual before assembling, installing, using or servicing the product is a misuse of the product.** Read the manual to refresh your understanding of proper use and maintenance procedures.
- DO NOT exceed the maximum rated load (see Label 287 on product; also shown on p. 7).
- Inspect the product before each use. DO NOT use this device if the inspection reveals: 1) broken, missing, or deformed safety chain; 2) damaged fork pockets; 3) cracked welds; 4) enlarged openings for fasteners (i.e. bolts used to fasten towing attachments to the HOOK-BASE); 5) corrosion, or 6) severe wear. DO NOT use the HOOK-BASE until it is fully restored to normal condition.
- Before attaching the HOOK-BASE to the tongue/coupler and latch of a trailer or other towable equipment, inspect the coupler and latch and confirm that all parts are structurally sound. DO NOT use the HOOK-BASE to tow a trailer or other towable equipment UNLESS the coupler seats properly on the selected ball hitch and latches securely.
- Always test the soundness of the connection between the lifting hook of the HOOK-BASE and the suspended load, by lifting the load a few inches off of the ground. Load swing should be minimal and the load should not shift. If the load is not stable while suspended, return it to the ground and adjust the position of the load in the rigging.
- Avoid and minimize load swing. Position the lifting hook directly above the center of the top of the load; then attach the load to the hook with appropriate rigging and slowly raise the load.
- DO NOT remove or obscure any label. Verify the placement and legibility of all labels as shown in the Labeling Diagram on p. 7. DO NOT use this device UNLESS all product labels are readable and undamaged.
- DO NOT ride or sit on the HOOK-BASE.
- DO NOT use the HOOK-BASE to tow anything if and while people are onboard.
- DO NOT use the lifting hook to lift any apparatus that supports people, such as a work platform.
- DO NOT leave suspended loads or towed equipment unattended. Always move the towed item to its desired location, properly immobilize it, and then disengage it from the towing attachment (ball, pintle hook, etc.).
- Always lower to the ground any load suspended from the lifting hook and disengage it from the hook before leaving the load unattended.
- DO NOT modify the HOOK-BASE without written approval from Vestil. **Unauthorized modifications automatically void the Limited Warranty (see p. 8) and might make the HOOK-BASE unsafe to use.**
- ONLY raise the forks as high as necessary to put the trailer in a horizontal (level) position for towing. If using the hoist hook attachment, only raise the forks as high as necessary to raise the load off of the ground and to avoid contact with obstacles in the travel path.
- DO NOT use the HOOK-BASE to transport *anything* but trailers or equipment designed to be towed. The towing attachment, e.g. ball or pintle hook, should match the towing adapter on the trailer or other towable equipment.
- ONLY use this HOOK-BASE consistent with the fork truck training you received.
- DO NOT modify the HOOK-BASE or any component of it in any way UNLESS you first obtain written approval from Vestil. Unauthorized modifications automatically void the Limited Warranty (see p. 8) and might make the lift unsafe to use.
- DO NOT use the lifter UNLESS all product labels (see Labeling Diagram on p. 7) are readable and undamaged.

Specifications:

Dimensions and other specifications of each standard model HOOK-BASE appear in the diagrams and tables below.

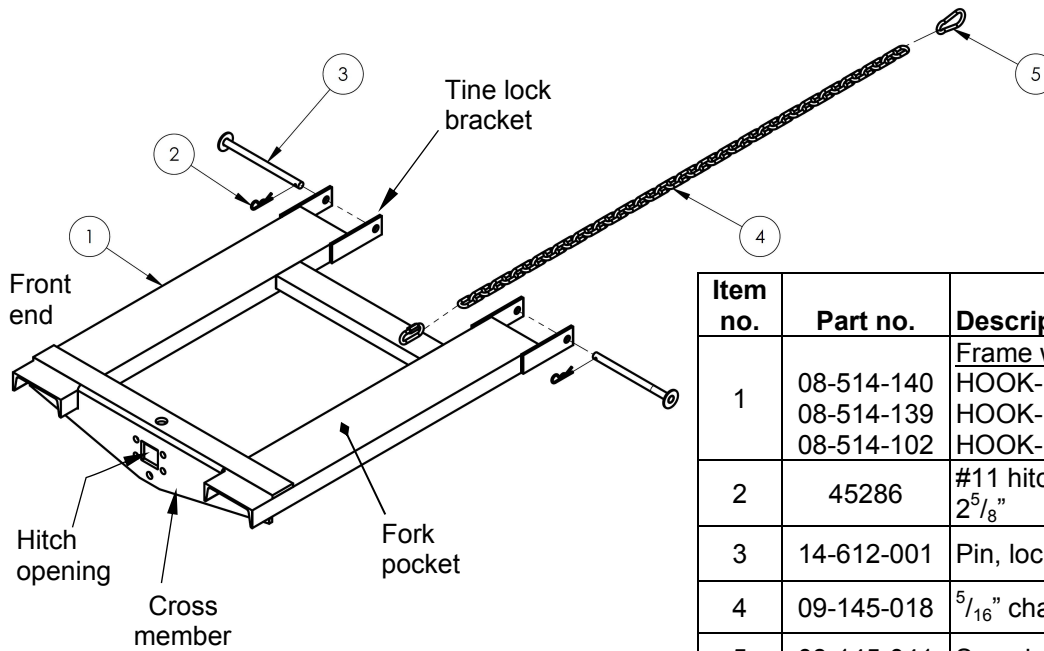


Model	A	B	C	D	E	Capacity	Net Weight
HOOK-BASE-32	40"	36"	32 ³ / ₈ "	0.77"	19.91"	4,000 lb.	87 lb.
HOOK-BASE-38	46"	42"	38 ³ / ₈ "	0.74"	23.08"	4,000 lb.	95 lb.
HOOK-BASE-44	52"	48"	44 ³ / ₈ "	0.72"	26.23"	4,000 lb.	103 lb.

Ball Hitches	Ball Diameter	Shank Diameter	Maximum Rated Load	Net Weight
BALL-178	1 ⁷ / ₈ "	1"	2,000 lb.	3 lb.
BALL-200	2"	1"	5,000 lb.	3 lb.
BALL-2516	2 ⁵ / ₁₆ "	1"	5,000 lb.	4 lb.
HITCH-3B	1 ⁷ / ₈ ", 2", & 2 ⁵ / ₁₆ "	N/A (hitches permanently mounted to 2"x2"x12" square tube)	2,000 lb. 3,500 lb. 7,500 lb.	12 lb.

Model	Jaw Opening	Vertical Capacity	Uniform Trailer Capacity	Net Weight
PINTLE Use with 3" (inner diameter) pintle ring	1 ³ / ₄ " (~4 ¹ / ₂ cm)	2,000 lb.	10,000 lb.	12 lb.

FIG. 1: Exploded parts diagram



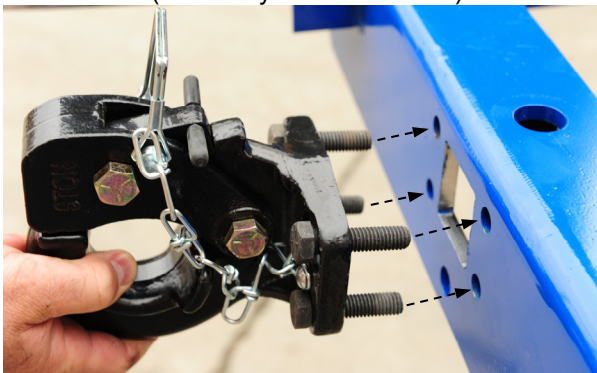
Item no.	Part no.	Description	Qty.
1	08-514-140	Frame weldment: HOOK-BASE-32	1
	08-514-139	HOOK-BASE-38	1
	08-514-102	HOOK-BASE-42	1
2	45286	#11 hitch pin clip, 1/8" x 2 5/8"	2
3	14-612-001	Pin, lock, weldment	2
4	09-145-018	5/16" chain 56" long	1
5	08-145-041	Snap hook, 5/16"	1

Use Instructions: Refer to FIG. 1 (above) for locations of features described.

Step 1: Select the appropriate towing attachment and fasten it to the HOOK-BASE.

PINTLE HOOK

1) Insert the bolts through the four bolt holes in the cross member (shown by dashed arrows).

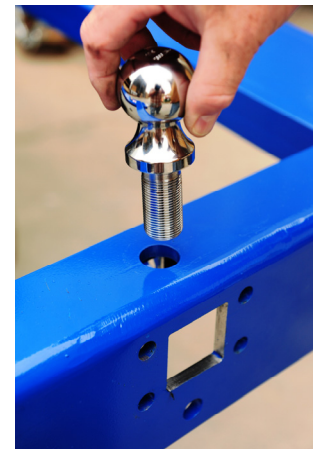


2) Fasten the pintle hook to the HOOK-BASE: first apply a lock washer to each bolt; then apply a hex nut. Fully tighten the nuts to secure the connections.

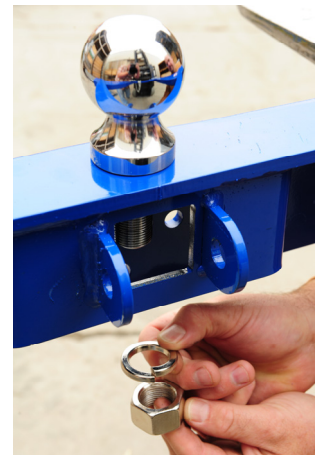


TOW BALL

1) Insert the tow ball through the opening in the top of the cross-member.

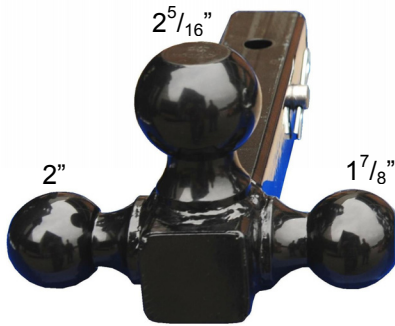


2) Fasten the tow ball to the HOOK-BASE: first apply a lock washer to each bolt; then apply a hex nut. Fully tighten the nuts to secure the connections.



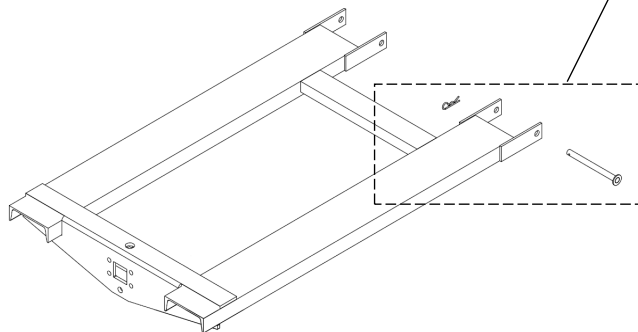
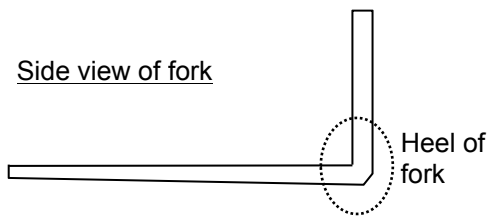
3-BALL HITCH (model HITCH-3B)

Select the appropriate tow ball and insert the hitch through the (square) hitch opening (see FIG. 1 on p. 4) in the cross-member with the selected tow ball facing upwards. Align the pin holes in the hitch with the pin holes in the hitch brackets. Insert the lock pin through the pin holes and secure it in place with a hitch pin.

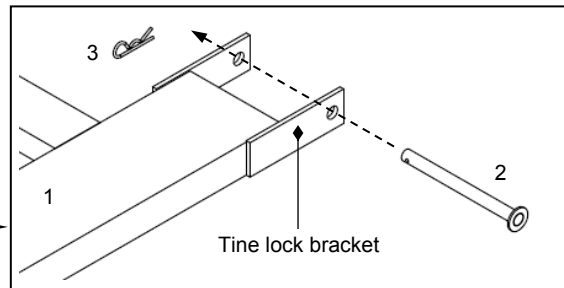


Step 2: Remove the locking pins from the tine lock brackets and adjust the positions of the forks of your lift truck to match the locations of the fork pockets. Slowly drive the truck forward until the forks extend all the way through the fork pockets and the heels of the forks contact the ends of the fork pockets (the tine lock brackets should project behind the heel of the forks). Secure the HOOK-BASE to the forks by reinstalling the tine lock pins; then secure the lock pins in place with hitch pins (3).

Side view of fork



a



b



Secure tine lock pins with hitch pins

Step 3: Fasten the safety chain to the carriage of the forklift WITH NO SLACK by looping the safety chain around the carriage and attaching the snap hook at the end of the chain to the quick link. Wrap the chain around the carriage a few times if necessary to remove slack from the chain. The chain must not be able to disconnect from the carriage without deliberate effort.

Quick link
Snap hook



Fork carriage

Safety chain with snap hook

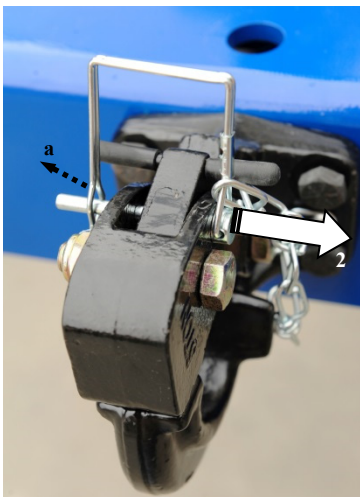
WARNING

The chain is an essential safety-enhancing feature. This photograph shows the safety chain wrapped around the forklift carriage and proper attachment of the snap hook to the quick link. However, in order to show the necessary connections, slack is left in the chain. To properly use the chain, wrap it around the carriage a sufficient number of times to remove all **slack**. *The chain will not prevent the drum lifter from sliding off of the forks if it is improperly connected to the fork carriage*

Step 4: Connect the trailer or other item to be towed to the towing attachment. Raise the forks sufficiently to put the tongue of the trailer in a horizontal position.

To connect a trailer to the pintle hook attachment:

- a) Unlock the snapper pin and remove it from the upper jaw of the pintle hook;
- b) Open the jaws by pressing the upper jaw upwards, while also pressing the opening lever forward. The jaw will maintain the open position when the lever is pressed all the way forward.



Unlock snapper pin and then pull out the pin



Press upwards on upper jaw and press opening lever forward



Pintle jaws open

Inspections & Maintenance:

NOTICE

Proper use, maintenance, and storage are essential for this product to function properly.

- Inspect the unit as described and at least as frequently as recommended.
- Use the product in accordance with the instructions in this manual.
- Store the HOOK-BASE and all towing and lifting attachments in a dry location.

Before each use, inspect the HOOK-BASE to confirm that it is in normal condition.

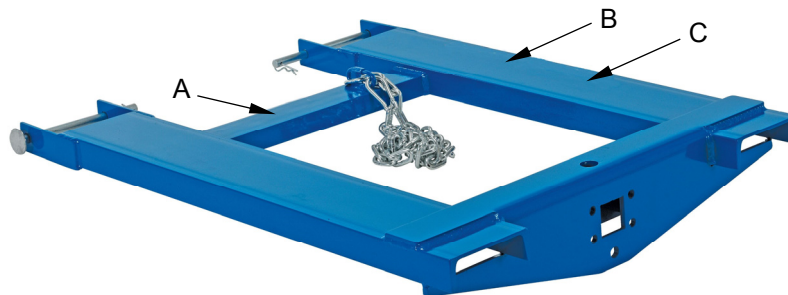
1. Safety chain and snap hook (attached to the free end of the safety chain): confirm that the spring latch (of the hook) automatically closes firmly. Do not continue to use the HOOK-BASE if the tine locks, snap hook, chain, or quick link are damaged or worn severely enough to prevent normal function.
2. Labeling: all labels should be readable and located as shown in the "Labeling Diagram" below. If a label is unreadable or missing, contact Vestil to order a replacement.

At least 1 time per month, inspect:

1. Fasteners (hardware):
 - Bolts, nuts, washers, pins, cotter pins;
 - Chain and snap hook.
2. Fork pockets: confirm that each pocket is structurally sound and free of significant rust. Do not use the HOOK-BASE if the fork pockets are structurally compromised.
3. Welds: confirm that all welds are intact. Only use this product if all welds are in normal, undamaged condition.
4. Towing attachments, fork pockets, and cross-members: confirm normal condition, i.e. no structural deformation, warps, or cracks, etc.
5. Overall condition: the structure should be clean, square and rigid, and free of rust and corrosion. Remove dirt and debris. Do not use the HOOK-BASE if the supporting frame is significantly rusted or corroded.

Labeling Diagram:

The product should always be labeled as shown in the diagram below. Replace all labels that are missing, damaged, faded, or not easily readable.



A: Label 287

MODEL/MODÉLO/MODÈLE _____
STATIC CAPACITY (evenly distributed) _____ lbs.
LA CAPACIDAD CONSTANTE (distribuida uniformemente) _____ kgs.
CAPACITÉ STATIQUE (distribuée régulièrement) _____ kgs.
SERIAL/SERIE/SÉRIE _____
287 REV 0812

B: Label 218

⚠ WARNING	⚠ ADVERTENCIAS
Improper use might result in death or serious personal injury. Attach device to fork carriage with safety chain/strap. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive lift truck forward until forks contact ends of fork pockets. • Chain/straps must not be able to disconnect (slide free) from carriage. • Safety chain/strap must be taut. Connect chain/strap to carriage via shortest line. 	El uso impropio puede resultar en muerte o heridas personales. Atar aparato al mástil del montacargas con cadenas/correas. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maneje el montacargas para adelante hasta que las cuñas hagan contacto con la orilla del bolsillo de las cuñas. • La cadenas y correas no deben de deslizarse (soltarse) del mástil del montacargas. • La cadena/correa de seguridad debe de estar apretado. Asegure la cadena/correa al mástil via la ruta mas corta.
	218 <small>rev 0910</small>

C: Label 658

⚠ WARNING	⚠ ADVERTENCIA	⚠ AVERTISSEMENT
Do not operate or move with unstable loads DO NOT LOAD beyond rated capacity DISTRIBUTE LOAD EVENLY DO NOT sit or ride	No use a mueva con cargas inestables No cargue mas de la capacidad tasada DISTRIBUYA LA CARGA A NIVEL NO SE SIENTE o vaya en el carro	Ne pas utiliser avec une charge instable NE PAS CHARGER au-delà du débit nominale DISTRIBUER la charge régulièrement NE PAS VOUS ASSEOIR OU VOUS PROMENER sur le chariot
		658 <small>rev 0808</small>

LIMITED WARRANTY

Vestil Manufacturing Corporation (“Vestil”) warrants this product to be free of defects in material and workmanship during the warranty period. *Our warranty obligation is to provide a replacement for a defective original part if the part is covered by the warranty, after we receive a proper request from the warrantee (you) for warranty service.*

Who may request service?

Only a warrantee may request service. *You are a warrantee if* you purchased the product from Vestil or from an authorized distributor AND Vestil has been fully paid.

What is an “original part”?

An original part is a part used to make the product as shipped to the warrantee.

What is a “proper request”?

A request for warranty service is proper if Vestil receives: 1) a photocopy of the Customer Invoice that displays the shipping date; AND 2) a written request for warranty service including your name and phone number. Send requests by any of the following methods:

Mail
Vestil Manufacturing Corporation
2999 North Wayne Street, PO Box 507
Angola, IN 46703

Fax
(260) 665-1339
Phone
(260) 665-7586

Email
sales@vestil.com

In the written request, list the parts believed to be defective and include the address where replacements should be delivered.

What is covered under the warranty?

After Vestil receives your request for warranty service, an authorized representative will contact you to determine whether your claim is covered by the warranty. Before providing warranty service, Vestil may require you to send the entire product, or just the defective part or parts, to its facility in Angola, IN. The warranty covers defects in the following original dynamic components: motors, hydraulic pumps, electronic controllers, switches and cylinders. It also covers defects in original parts that wear under normal usage conditions (“wearing parts”), such as bearings, hoses, wheels, seals, brushes, and batteries.

How long is the warranty period?

The warranty period for original dynamic components is 90 days. For wearing parts, the warranty period is 90 days. The warranty periods begin on the date when Vestil ships the product to the warrantee. If the product was purchased from an authorized distributor, the periods begin when the distributor ships the product. Vestil may, at its sole discretion, extend the warranty periods for products shipped from authorized distributors by up to 30 days to account for shipping time.

If a defective part is covered by the warranty, what will Vestil do to correct the problem?

Vestil will provide an appropriate replacement for any covered part. An authorized representative of Vestil will contact you to discuss your claim.

What is not covered by the warranty?

1. Labor;
2. Freight;
3. Occurrence of any of the following, which automatically voids the warranty:
 - Product misuse;
 - Negligent operation or repair;
 - Corrosion or use in corrosive conditions;
 - Inadequate or improper maintenance;
 - Damage sustained during shipping;
 - Accidents involving the product;
 - Unauthorized modifications: DO NOT modify the product IN ANY WAY without first receiving written authorization from Vestil. Modification(s) might make the product unsafe to use or might cause excessive and/or abnormal wear.

Do any other warranties apply to the product?

Vestil Manufacturing Corp. makes no other express warranties. All implied warranties are disclaimed to the extent allowed by law. Any implied warranty not disclaimed is limited in scope to the terms of this Limited Warranty.

