

# Wrecker Application

Vehicles shown have been altered or upfitted with equipment supplied by independent suppliers. See the Owner Manual for information on alterations and warranties.



Wrecker duty is one of the toughest jobs a truck can face. Severe frame loads, extended idling and less-than-ideal conditions for vehicle recovery underline the importance of careful vehicle and package selection. Cities, collision shops, cab companies and vehicle transport companies all rely on their GM Sales Consultant to properly specify their GM truck for optimum reliability and long-lasting service.

See Special Equipment Options for factory preparation vital to your application.

See Powertrain Combinations chart for applicable engines and transmissions.

## Wrecker Towing Capacity Guidelines

Wrecker towing capacity is affected by:

- Type of lift (single winch, twin-winch/single-boom, single hydraulic extendable boom, underlift extendable boom, or roll-back carrier winch)
- Wrecker wheelbase
- Rear overhang
- Front axle weight

Compute the lift load limit of a specific wrecker by considering the weight remaining at the front axle. It should never be less than half its weight when not towing (or the front axle weight minus 3500 pounds, whichever is less).

This is the MINIMUM required to ensure proper steering.

## Towing & Recovery Vehicle Types:

### Hydraulic & Mechanical

Wrecker types come in two basic forms:

- 1) Recovery and tow vehicles
- 2) Transporter “roll back” type units

They have vastly different chassis component requirements and operational environments.

### Wrecker Capacities

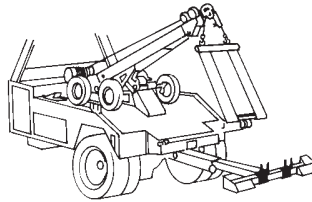
- Can be stated in a number of ways:
  - Lifting and towing capacity
  - Boom rating
  - Drum rating
  - Working line limits
  - Chassis GAWR limits
- Particular wrecker body design will have a “Basic Wrecker Rating” capacity stated in tons

### Wrecker Bodies

- Different configurations of booms, masts, cables and capacities can be mounted on a single wrecker body
- Bodies can be custom-made to accommodate:
  - 1) Non-standard wheelbase lengths
  - 2) Vertical exhaust systems and any other equipment located behind the cab
- Wrecker bodies are also made to fit the standard CA dimensions
- Wrecker bodies have wheel well openings that may require accommodation
- Bodies require careful attention to CA and axle width for compatibility
- Careful attention must be paid to any equipment mounted behind the cab

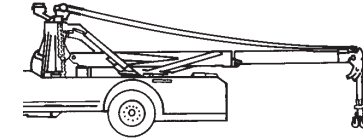
## Single Winch (Boom)

- Has a vertical mast located behind the cab
- A single boom extends out at an angle from the base of the mast to a point past the end of the body
- Cable is routed from the winch and service line drum, up to the mast and the end of the boom
- General service units have both recovery and towing capability
- This is the least complicated and least expensive unit
- Can also be found with underlift pickup units



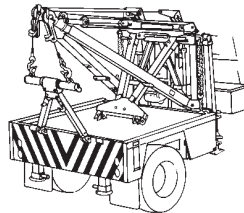
## Single Hydraulic Extendable Boom

- Uses a combination of a mast and single extendable boom
- Twin cables and drums are added for recovery versatility
- Ability of this unit to reach out over guard rails and other obstacles is important
- Boom is extended, lowered and raised by hydraulic power
- Capacity of the boom will vary with the length of the boom's extension and structural strength
- Combines hydraulic boom lift power with cable lift capability
- Requires higher hydraulic operating capabilities to run the boom extension and boom lift, and run cable drum winch
- Can also be outfitted with powered underlifts to permit towing



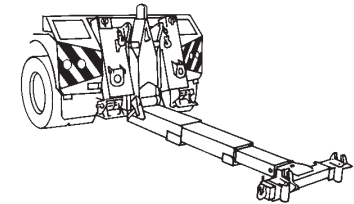
## Twin Winch (Single Boom)

- Mast is similar to the single boom
- Has two cables and two service line drums
- Cables can be split for side pulling and uprighting overturned vehicles with two attachment points
- Cables joined provide increased lifting capability
- Twin winch is more expensive than the single winch
- Added versatility of the twin winch design enables the wrecker to perform more difficult and varied recoveries



## Underlift

- Can either lift under its own power or rely on the main boom to lift the underlift and the vehicle
- Structure is mounted behind the wrecker body and extends out
- Units that employ the boom for lifting force receive added towing capacity
- Underlift extends out to facilitate towing of vehicles with large front overhangs



## Boom

Model	Cab or Equipment	WB/CA (inches)	Drive Axle(s)	GVWR (pounds)*	Maximum Body and Payload (pounds)**
<b>Silverado/Sierra 3500HD Chassis Cab</b>	Regular Cab SWB	137.5/59.8	2WD	13200	7293
	Regular Cab LWB	162.0/84.3	2WD	13200	7205

\* When properly equipped; includes weight of vehicle, passengers, cargo and equipment.

\*\* When properly equipped; maximum payload capacity includes weight of driver, passengers, optional equipment and cargo.