



# BX1696

## 2011-12 GMC Acadia Denali Installation Instructions

**Please read BOTH these Installation Instructions and the General Instructions before attempting to install or operate this equipment.**

Serial Number

- Blue Ox® towing products and accessories are intended to be installed by Blue Ox® Dealers who are familiar with our products and have the equipment necessary and knowledge to do “fit work”. When necessary Blue Ox® Dealers can be found at [www.blueox.com](http://www.blueox.com) or by contacting our Customer Care Department at (402) 385-3051.
- Many Blue Ox® baseplates are designed to use existing holes and hardware to mount the baseplate to the towed vehicle. Even though bolts are there, do not assume they are adequate for baseplate mounting. Always use hardware supplied in the hardware kit and existing hardware specified in the Baseplate Installation Instructions.

Attachment Tab Height: 17-1/4”  
Attachment Tab Width: 18”

**Bolt Torque Specifications**  
Torque in Foot-Pounds for Metric Bolts

Bolt Size	Grade 8.8	Grade 10.9
6MM	6	8
8MM	16	22
10MM	31	40
12MM	54	70
14MM	89	117

**Confirm the towability and pre-towing procedures for your vehicle with the owner’s manual or contact the vehicle’s manufacturer for specific towing procedures.**

**Do not use the towed vehicle for storing luggage, equipment, etc. This may cause you to exceed the towing capacity of the tow bar, baseplate, and its accessories.**

**Bolt Torque Specifications**  
Torque in Foot-Pounds for Inch Bolts

Bolt Size	Grade 5	Grade 8
1/4”	10	14
5/16”	19	29
3/8”	33	47
7/16”	54	78
1/2”	78	119
5/8”	154	230



If the front of your vehicle looks different than this, call us at (402) 385-3051.

**⚠ WARNING**

Failure to read and follow these instructions could result in separation of the towed vehicle from the tow bar, causing property damage, loss of towed vehicle, personal injury or death.

# BX1696

## 2011-12 GMC Acadia Denali

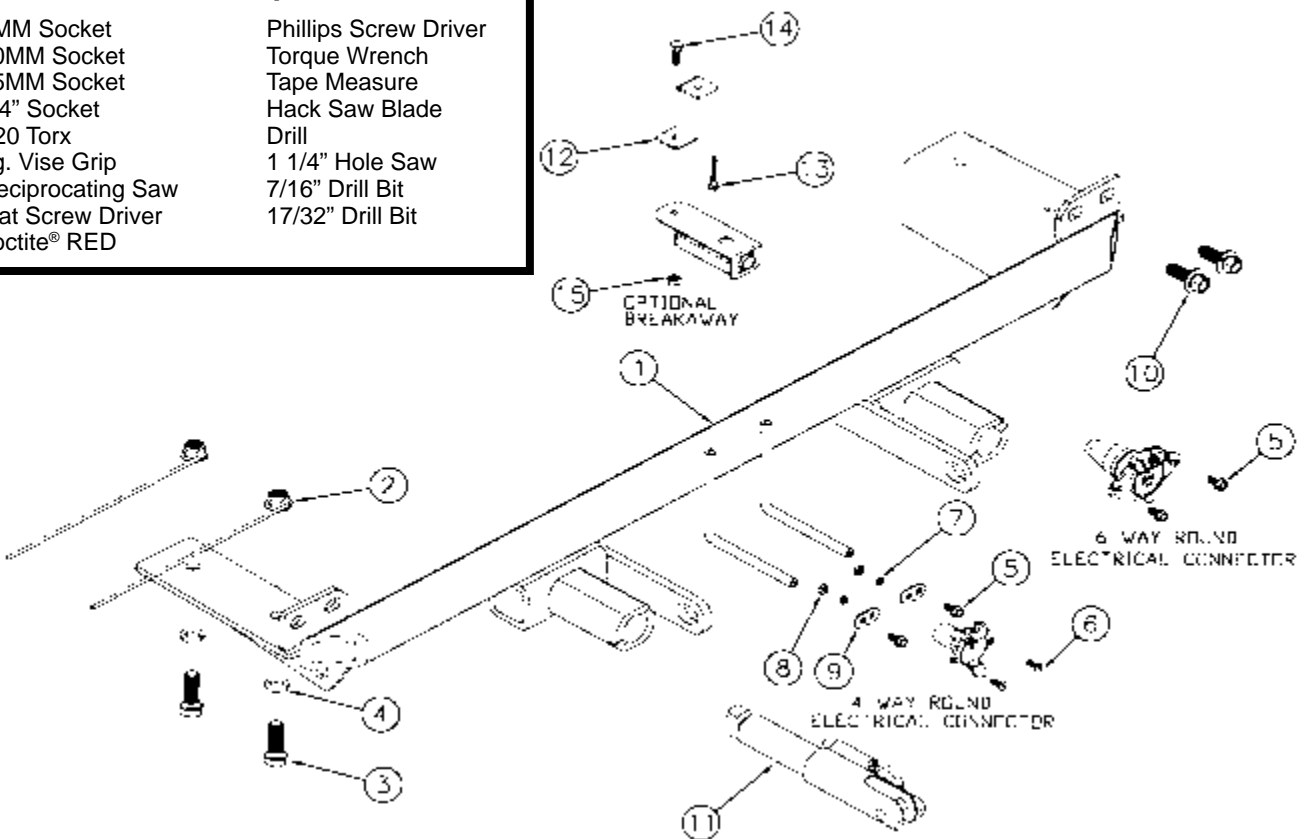
### Installation Instructions

#### Parts List

Ref. No.	Qty.	Part #	Description
1	1	61-6874	BX1696 Baseplate
2	4	61-4029	Weldment, 1/2" Nut Wire, Common
3	4	201-0051	1/2-13 x 1 1/2" Hex Bolt, Grade. 5, ZP
4	4	203-0012	1/2" Lock Washer, ZP
5	2	201-0553	1/4-20x1/2" Hex Washed, Type F Screw
6	2	201-0192	#10-32x1/2" Slot, Round Head Screw
7	2	203-0054	#10 Lock Washer
8	2	202-0047	#10-32 Hex Nut
9	2	101-5822	Adapter, 4 Way Connector
10	4		Existing Bolts
11	2	62-3469	Attachment, Assembly, SF/SB, 1 Hole
12	1	102-7168	Breakaway Bracket
13	1	201-0654	#10-16 X 1 Self Drilling Screw
14	1	201-0050	1/4-20 X 3/4 Hex Bolt Grade.5, ZP
15	1	202-0102	1/4-20 Hex Nyl Nut, ZP
	2	290-0437	Cap Plug, Black (Not Shown)
	2	229-0512	Quicklink, 1/2", ZP (Not Shown)
	2	226-0049	Baseplate Safety Cable, 36" Class IV (Not Shown)

#### Tools Required

7MM Socket	Phillips Screw Driver
10MM Socket	Torque Wrench
15MM Socket	Tape Measure
3/4" Socket	Hack Saw Blade
T20 Torx	Drill
Lg. Vise Grip	1 1/4" Hole Saw
Reciprocating Saw	7/16" Drill Bit
Flat Screw Driver	17/32" Drill Bit
Loctite® RED	



#### Important:

Use only genuine factory replacement parts on your baseplate. Do NOT substitute homemade or non-typical parts. If a bolt is lost or in need of replacement, for your safety and the preservation of your baseplate, be sure to use a replacement bolt of the same grade (In most cases it will be Grade 5, please reference the parts list above). Replacement parts may be ordered through your nearest Blue Ox® Dealer or Distributor. Failing to follow and/or altering these installation instructions in either installation or required equipment will void the manufacturer's warranty.

## BX1696 2011-12 GMC Acadia Denali Installation Instructions

**Attachment Tabs:** Due to the design of removable tabs, the RangeFinder II, Acclaim and Ambassador tow bars can not be used. Adapters, except the BX8833 and BX88151, can not be used with this baseplate.

**Installation Notes:** The plastic cover, temperature sensor and fascia are removed and reinstalled during installation of the baseplate. Drilling is required. Trimming of the frame, air dam and fascia is required.

The dimensional variations between otherwise identical vehicles can be considerable. While the baseplate was designed for easy installation, it may be necessary to tailor the baseplate slightly to compensate for auto manufacturer's tolerances. These minor adjustments may include filing a hole slightly, bending electrical rods or bending end plates.

The BX8848 Diode Wiring Kit is recommended for this vehicle.

Use a 12 Volt D. C. continuity lamp tester to insure the BX8848 will function properly.

**Do not use the towed vehicle for storing luggage, equipment, etc. This may cause you to exceed the towing capacity of the tow bar, baseplate, and its accessories.**

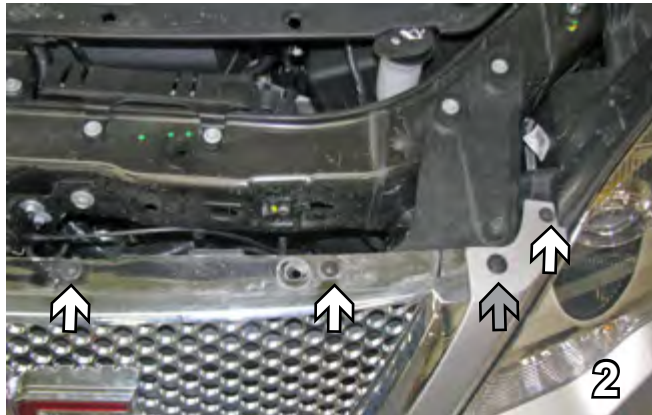
**Handling of some cosmetic parts when installing this product may require the use of protective covers, rags, specialty tools, etc. to prevent damage.**

### Installation Instructions:



1. Using a flat screwdriver, remove three push pins from the flat plastic cover on top. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set push pins and top cover aside to be reinstalled later.

**BX1696**  
2011-12 GMC Acadia Denali  
Installation Instructions



2. **2011:** Remove three Phillips screws (white arrows) with a Phillips screwdriver and one push pin (gray arrow) with a flat screwdriver. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set screws and push pin aside to be reinstalled later.

**2012:** Remove three screws (white arrows) with a T20 Torx and one push pin (gray arrow) with a flat screwdriver. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set screws and push pin aside to be reinstalled later.



3. Using a T20 Torx, remove five (5) screws just forward of the front tire, on the wheel well. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set screws aside to be reinstalled later.

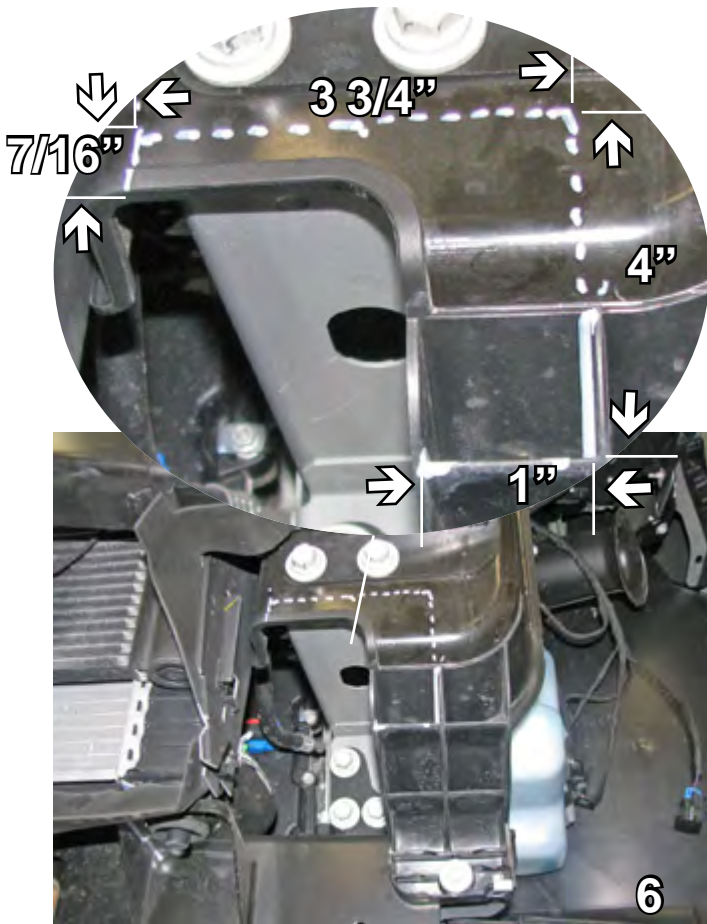


4. On the underside, just forward of the front tire remove one (1) bolt (gray arrow) with a 10MM socket and two (2) screws (white arrows) with a T20 Torx. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set bolts and screws aside to be reinstalled later.

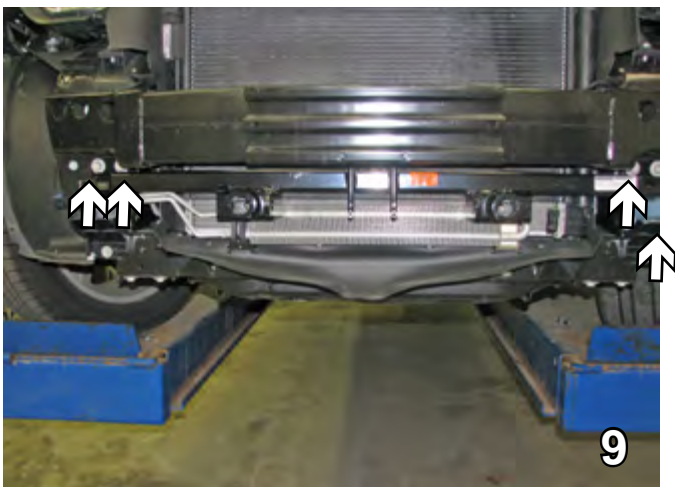
5. Once screws are removed from wheel well, pull plastic back on top corner of fascia and remove one (1) metric bolt with a 7MM socket. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Set screws aside to be reinstalled later. The fascia is then ready to be removed from the vehicle and set aside carefully to be reinstalled later.



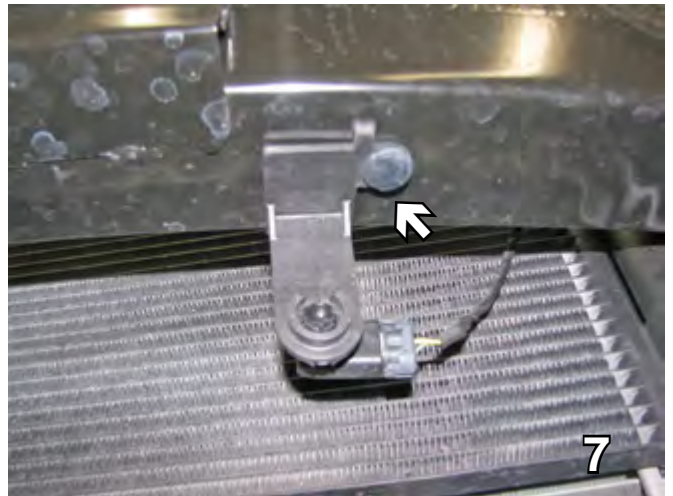
**BX1696**  
2011-12 GMC Acadia Denali  
Installation Instructions



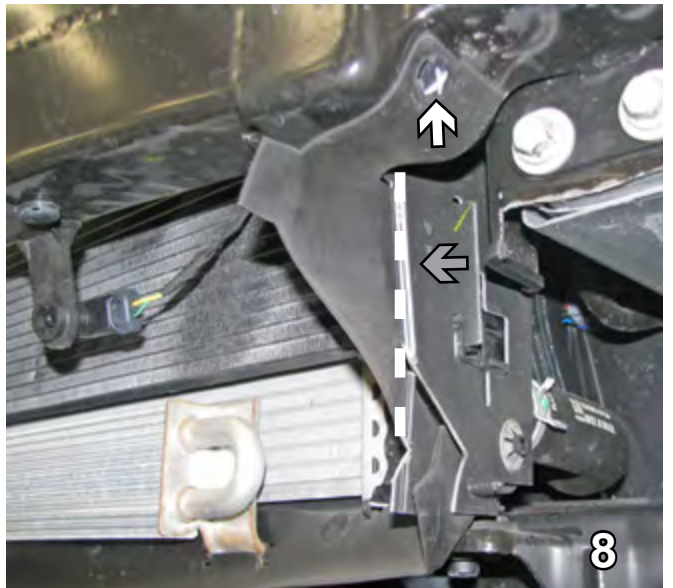
6. Mark and cut out frame according to the photo above, using a reciprocating saw. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.



9. Using a 15MM socket, remove two (2) bolts from the front of the bumper. Do this to both sides of the bumper. Slide baseplate straight back, so that the holes on the baseplate line up with the existing holes of the bumper. Reinsert the existing bolts and tighten down, so the bolts are snug. Be sure to use Loctite Red on all bolts. Do this to both sides of the baseplate.

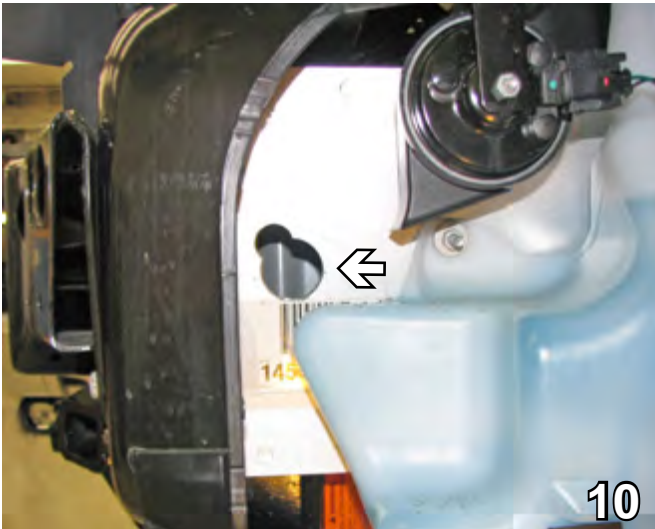


7. Remove the push pin holding the temperature sensor bracket below the bumper on the driver side. Unplug and set aside to be reinstalled later.



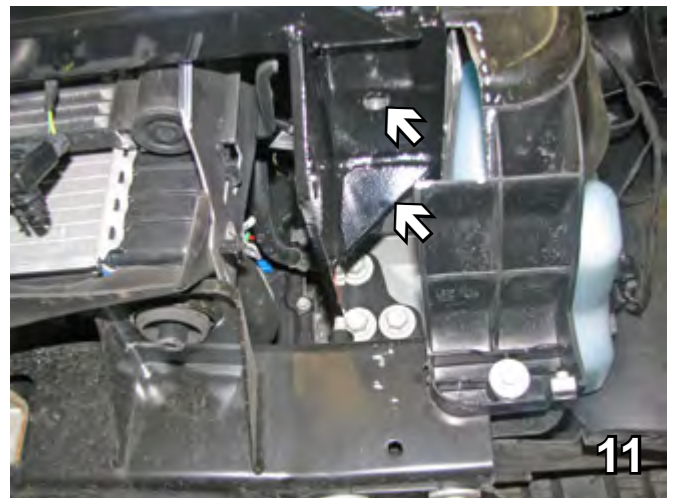
8. Using a flat screwdriver, remove push pin (white arrow) and then using a hack saw blade, cut along dashed line shown in the photo above (grey arrow). The plastic air dam will not be reinstalled and can be discarded. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

**BX1696**  
2011-12 GMC Acadia Denali  
Installation Instructions



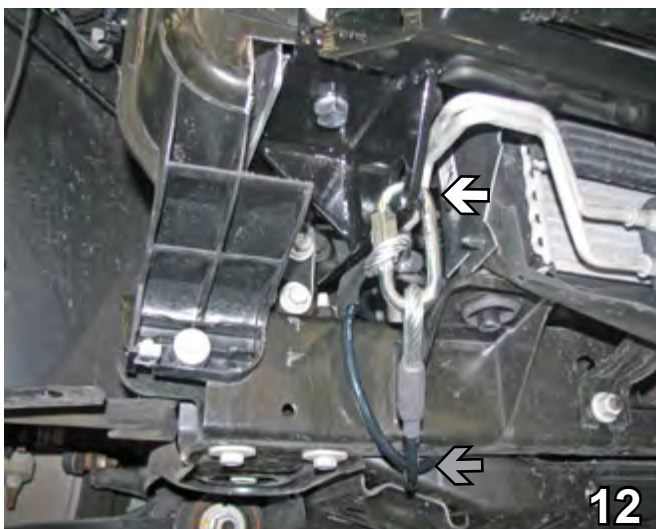
10. Drill a 1-1/4" hole into the frame, this allows access for the nut plates. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.

When using power drills be aware of the dangers of torque and drill bit length.



11. Using the baseplate as a template, drill the two (2) bottom holes into the frame with a 17/32" drill bit. Insert the 1/2"-13 nut plates into the frame (step 10) and align with drilled holes. Insert 1/2"-13 x 1-1/2" hex bolts and 1/2" lock washers into each hole and tighten down. Be sure to use Loctite Red on all bolts. Do this to both sides of the baseplate.

**BE SURE TO USE LOCTITE® RED ON ALL BOLTS BEFORE TIGHTENING. TIGHTEN ALL BOLTS ACCORDING TO THE TORQUE CHART ON THE FRONT PAGE OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS OR ON PAGE 3 OF THE BASEPLATE TOWING GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.**



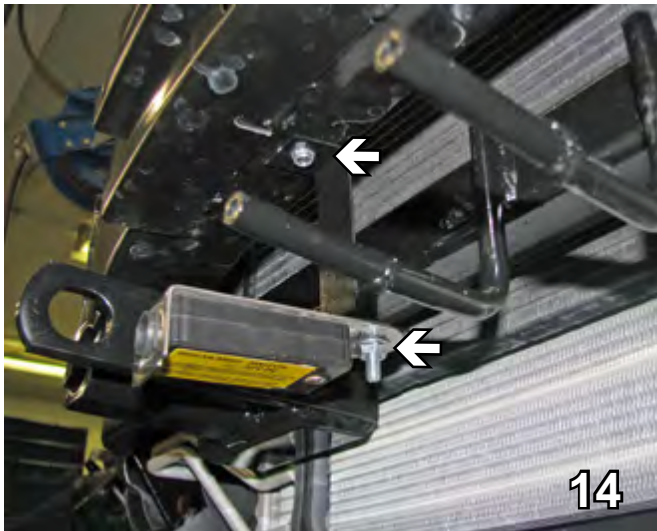
12. Attach the permanent baseplate safety cables to the provided convenience link on the baseplate (white arrow). The photo to the left shows the recommended installation of the cables to the frame of vehicle (grey arrow). Additional options may interfere with the suggested mounting. In this case, secure the cables to a solid piece of the frame as described in the instructions included with the permanent baseplate safety cables. Be sure the safety cables do not rub against any hoses or moving parts. Do this to both sides of the vehicle.



**BX1696**  
2011-12 GMC Acadia Denali  
Installation Instructions



13. Using a hack saw blade, cut off the air temperature bracket just past the hole. Redrill the hole using a 7/16" drill bit. Reattach the bracket in its original position and reconnect the sensor.



14. **Optional:** Attach the breakaway bracket halfway between the receiver and the electric rod on the passenger side. Fasten the bracket to the underside of the bumper with a #10-16 x 1" self drilling screw. Attach the breakaway to the bracket with a 1/4"-20 x 3/4" hex bolt and 1/4"-20 hex nut.
15. Align the fascia to its original position and using a hack saw blade, remove area around attachment tab receiver to allow for it to come through fascia. Do this to both sides of the vehicle. Reinstall the fascia and plastic cover.

Install the tow bar and safety cables according to the instructions provided in their packages. When demonstrating this to the customer, be sure to include all the contents and packages.

Do **NOT** substitute other devices if the tow bar pins and clips are misplaced.

**DEALER or INSTALLER:**  
Be certain the user receives the  
instruction sheets for their products.

Be sure that **ALL** electrical connections  
are plugged in properly and functioning  
**BEFORE** installing the fascia.

**BX1696**  
2011-12 GMC Acadia Denali  
Installation Instructions



**Shown without removable tabs installed**



**Shown with removable tabs installed**

**CUSTOMER SERVICE COMMITMENT**

Blue Ox is committed to providing you with exceptional customer care throughout your lifetime with our products. Our team is here to assist you with any questions you may have regarding the performance of your product. Simply call (402) 385-3051 and you can speak with our customer care team.

Additionally, please visit our website to see which rallies our Destination America team will be attending. For a nominal fee, our service technician will service your towing system to ensure it's in proper working condition. Also, as a commitment to our customers, should you visit our factory, you can stay at our full service Blue Ox campground at no charge along with enjoying a factory tour.

Again, thank you for being our customer and for the confidence you have shown in the performance of our products. It is because of customers like you we enjoy the success we have today.

**If the baseplate is in an accident, it must be replaced. DO NOT use it again! An accident can cause unseen damage and using it again could result in more damage or serious injury. DO NOT use the baseplate if it is damaged or missing parts.**



© 2011 Blue Ox  
One Mill Road, Industrial Park  
Pender, Nebraska 68047  
Phone: (402) 385-3051  
Fax: (402) 385-3360  
[www.blueox.com](http://www.blueox.com)