OEM House Battery Tray Supplemental Support System 2018 Airstream Interstate Grand Tour EXT

(A.K.A. My <\$ 30.00 Saftey Precaution ~ Peace Of Mind)

Hello Friends.

Upon learning that multiple Airstream Interstate owners have experianced structural failure of their OEM battery tray(s) which resulted in their battery falling away from their rig onto the roadway, myself and many fellow Interstate owners have taken notice. Fortunately from the accounts I've read no physical injury has occurred as the result of these unfortunate incidents.

To the best of my current knowledge instances of this occurring has only happened with Interstate owners that have installed larger (heavier than OEM) higher capacity batteries. Although it seems apparent that since I have not modified my OEM battery set up that I am not at risk of this happening to me. This said I would rather error on the side of caution and do something to prevent the "birthing" of my battery(s) onto any roadway and placing anyone or anything in peril.

To that end and after considerable thought I've devised a support system that offers auxilary support of the battery itself and of the battery tray in the event of a structural failure of the tray. This system is heavily dependent upon the physical strength of the nylon zip ties used. I have a high level of confidence in the tensile strength of these zip ties. What I am not fully certain of are the other physical stresses these ties may be subject to; such as abrasion, cutting, etc.

I installed this system in early April and it will be my intention to provide a follow-up status of it's durability and functionality in 6~9 months.

Happy Trails

Steve (Luckysnuck)

Disclaimer: As this very fundemental idea will likely illustrate, I am in no way, shape or form degreed or versed in any type of engineering...just a shade tree mechanic attempting to apply what seems to be logical by design and viable in purpose.

Note

The eye-bolt assemblies were all bolted into pre-existing holes located in the Interstate's undercarraige.

Parts ~ All purchased @ Menards (Part images not to scale.)



(x2)

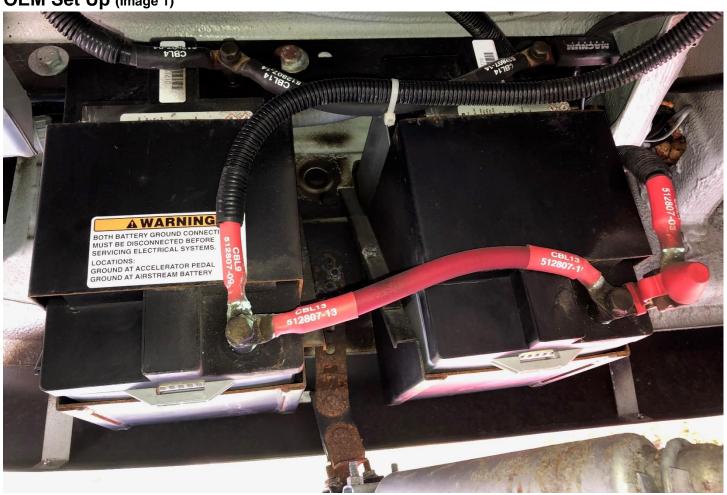




(x1) Bracket/Eye-Bolt Assembly



OEM Set Up (Image 1)



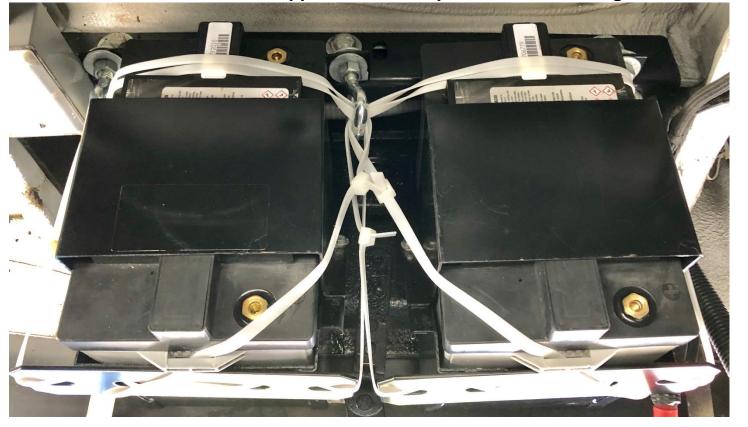
OEM Set Up - Batteries Removed (Image 2)



Surfaces Cleaned, Painted & 3 Bracket Eye-Bolt Assemblies Installed (Image 3)



Batteries Reinstalled, Lower Support Plates & Zip Ties Installed & Tightened (Image 4)



(Image 5)



(Image 6)

