



Fittings can be attached to the company's special thermal plastic hose by hand.

"Push-To-Connect" Hydraulic Fittings Eliminate Need For Crimpers

All you need to install these new hydraulic fittings is a crescent wrench and a pocket knife.

"We think our system will revolutionize the repair of hydraulic hoses because we've eliminated the need for expensive crimpers and the expense of keeping an inventory of pre-made assemblies on hand," says James McCoy, Advanced Technology Products, Milford Center, Ohio. The company introduced the new system to farmers for the first time at a recent farm show.

What makes the TechniGripp system unique are the new "push-to-connect" fittings that can be attached to the company's special thermal plastic hose by hand. To replace a broken hose you throw away the original hose and fitting and use a wrench to screw a new fitting into the tractor outlet. Use a knife to cut the hose to the desired length, then align the end of the hose with a groove at the base of the fitting. Mark the hose at the end of the fitting with a permanent or ink marker and insert the hose into the fitting until the mark lines up with the end of the fitting.

That's all there is to it. The fittings lock in place automatically.

"The fittings are designed to be used only with our thermal plastic hose. They won't work with conventional wire-braided hoses, but will work on standard tractor and com-



Kits include hose and fittings.

bine hydraulic outlets," says McCoy.

Available in three kits - basic, standard, and deluxe - that each come in their own carrying case. Prices for the kits range from \$56 to \$235 depending on the size and length of hose, number of fittings, and carrying case style.

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Bergman simply welded a couple of brackets onto the truck frame to mount the axle.

Third Axle Boosts Truck Capacity By 8,000 Lbs.

"At harvest time you need to haul as much grain as you can at one time and still remain 'street legal,'" says Carl Bergman who added a third lightweight axle to his tandem axle straight grain truck to boost its hauling capacity.

His 1984 White/Volvo truck, repowered with a 400 cu. in. Cat diesel, is equipped with a 700-bu. box.

The third axle is a used 8,000-lb. AirRide semi axle fitted with air bags and spring retractor. He bought the axle in Chicago from a truck parts supplier.

"There wasn't anything particularly tough about doing it," Bergman says. "I simply

welded a couple of brackets onto the frame of the truck to mount the axle. It had to be mounted exactly 9 ft. ahead of the rear axle, according to state regulations."

The air bags lower the axle and the spring attachment raises it when the truck's not loaded.

"It allows us to haul an extra 8,000 lbs., or 150 bu. more of corn," he says. "We couldn't do without it."

Out-of-pocket expense was under \$2,000.

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Self-sealing 1 1/2-in. dia. aluminum discs mold to screw heads to prevent rust and leaks.

"Stop Leak" Screw Covers For Metal Roofs

"It's a low-cost, easy way to stop leaks in metal roofs," says Herb Rayburn, Kwik-Kap Co., New Caney, Texas, about the company's "stop leak" screw covers.

"Kwik-Kaps" are self-sealing 1 1/2-in. dia. aluminum discs that mold themselves to screw heads to prevent rust, leaks, and also keep the screws from working loose.

The underside of each disc is coated with an asphalt adhesive. You simply clean the area around the screw or nail head, center the disc over the top of it, and use the tool that comes with the kit to press down on the disc and twist. Takes only seconds per disc to apply.

"It's a neat repair that eliminates the need to replace the fasteners or to use messy caulks or sealers," says Rayburn. "The discs are re-

inforced with a special high density polymer film which provides extraordinary resistance, and the aluminum foil reflects heat and ultraviolet light which prematurely damages other leak stop sealers. What's more, you can paint right over these discs as soon as they're installed, if desired."

A sample kit containing 100 discs and a 3-in. long wooden "demo" tool sells for \$15 plus S&H. A case containing 1,000 discs sells for \$95.40 plus S&H. For high volume use a 28-in. long steel applicator tool is available with a rubber grip on one end and a heavy duty plastic head on the other. It sells for \$30 plus S&H.

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New "Short Finder" Helps Fix Electric Fence

Finding shorts in electric fence has never been easier than with this new farmer-invented "fault finder" from Australia that's now on the market in North America.

The Power Probe was a recent winner of Australia's Ag Invention of the Year award. John Ferris of Ferris Fencing in British Columbia obtained one of the pocket-sized probes to see if it really worked. He was so impressed he became North American distributor for the product.

"It's simple to use. You just touch it to the fence wire. There are two arrows at the top of the unit, one pointing right and one pointing left with red lights next to each arrow. If the right arrow lights up, that means the short is in that direction. You just keep following the arrows until you find the problem," says Ferris.

You can use the Power Probe to check your fence regularly to see if it's functioning properly. It has a readout that shows voltage and amps. If the amps (or current) is higher than normal, and the voltage lower than normal, that means you probably have a short.

Ferris notes that you can also use the probe to detect stray voltage around the farm. If animals are not drinking from a particular water tank, for example, you can touch the probe to it to see if electricity could be causing the problem.



Arrows on probe indicate which direction short is in.

The Power Probe sells for \$145 (Canadian).

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