



G.D. Equipment specializes in supplying parts - either used, new, rebuilt, or after market - for skid steer loaders. Parted-out skid steers line the drive up to warehouse.

They Specialize In Used Parts For Skid Steer Loaders

If you need parts for a skid steer loader, there's a good chance GD Equipment, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, has what you need.

Owner Aaron Shirk has been buying and selling used skid steers for 10 years. "When we get one in that we can't repair, we part it out. We also have new and reconditioned parts and we've become specialists at rebuilding hydrostatic transmissions for all types of skid steer loaders and even other equipment — everything from lawn mowers to bulldozers."

GD Equipment sells skid steer hydrostatic parts at prices up to 50 percent less than you'll find anywhere else. And if you need a rebuild, Shirk says his prices can save you up to 70 percent over what a local repair shop or dealership might charge.

"We have some unique rebuilding procedures for hydrostats that make them as

good as new and in some cases, better than new. And we do it more economically than just about anyone else can," he says.

While they don't stock parts for every make and model of skid steer ever produced, Shirk says it would have to be an extremely rare part if they didn't have it. "We have most of the hard-to-find parts, either used, new or after market," he says.

While the parts business is what got them involved in hydrostatic transmissions, rebuilding hydrostats is now their most requested service. "We get hydrostats in from all over the East, as far south as the Carolinas. We even get them in from as far west as Kentucky and Wisconsin," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Aaron Shirk, GD Equipment, 414 Rowe Road, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257 (ph 717 530-0170).

"Rust Buster" Spray Welder Fills Big Holes In Sheet Metal

Do you have an old pickup that runs great but has a body full of big rusty holes?

Rodney and Garry Rose think they can help. It took 20 years to perfect their wire-feed "rustbuster" Spray Welder, which fills big gaps in sheet metal by spraying molten zinc into the rusted-out holes.

"You can repair auto bodies, augers, metal siding, or any other metal that's rusted or corroded," says Rodney, who operates a sandblasting business in Portland, Oregon in addition to staying busy manufacturing and promoting his spray welder. Garry has a similar business in Salt Lake City, Utah.

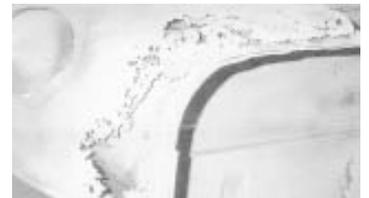
"We started with this idea in 1978 and finally had a machine that worked the way we wanted in 1998," Rodney says.

To fill a hole, you first sandblast the area to be repaired. "All the rust or corrosion must be removed for best results," he says. Then you use the spray welder to rebuild the piece, filling in any holes and smoothing over pits. The spray welder actually melts zinc wire and sprays it over the surface.

Once the surface has been restored by this process, it has about the same feel as 30-grit sandpaper. Once he's rebuilt a piece, Rose applies a primer on the surface and then smooths it with a block sander. "Once that's done, it's ready to finish," he says.

Besides being useful for auto body work and siding repair, Rose says it can be used to rebuild steel handrails, rusted pipe gates, or in restoring antique tractors and farm machinery.

To demonstrate the machine locally, Rose completely refinished a 1975 MG Midget sports car. Both rear quarter panels were nearly gone because of rust before Rose used his spray welder on it. Now it looks like new. "I sanded it down and put a clear coat on the



Spray Welder fills big gaps in sheet metal by spraying molten zinc into the rusted-out areas. The results are shown in these "before" and "after" photos.



surface, so it looks like a galvanized car now," he says.

The Rose brothers call their company Rustbusters. They sell the Spray Welder as part of a package that includes the Rustbuster name, the machine, training needed to operate it, and, importantly, rights to a protected territory in which to use it. They will bring the spray welder to you and give you on-site training in its use, all for a total of \$25,000. If you go to Portland, Oregon, for training at the Rustbuster factory, you can get set up for \$20,000. So far, they have assigned nearly 20 protected territories, mostly in the West and Midwest.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rustbusters, P.O. Box 341, Clackamas, Ore. 97015 (ph 800 600-3203; Email: info@rustbusters.com; Website: rustbusters.com).

"Quick And Cheap" Portable Shop Benches

When Mike Douglas, Harmony, Minnesota, needs an extra work table in his shop, he whips out his conduit bender.

"I've made several conduit work benches," says the body shop owner. "I borrowed the idea from an old mechanics magazine and have modified it several ways.

"They work on the principle of the old TV trays," he says. "You bend the conduit at right angles to make legs and a top of the right width. You need two pieces - one for each side. Then you drill holes through the legs and put a bolt through them to allow them to 'scissor' together. A chain fastened to each leg either below or above the bolt keeps them from separating. Then all you need is a board or piece of plywood for a top. It only takes about 15 minutes to make a bench this way."

Douglas says he keeps several 10-ft. lengths of 1-in. conduit around the shop just to make benches from.

"You could use any size conduit," he notes, "depending on how much weight you want to put on the bench. I've actually set a car engine on top of one, so I know they'll hold just about anything."

If you make several pairs the same size, you can set them up to make benches of any length, he says, noting that they make great portable tables for flea markets. When you no longer need the bench, you take off the top and fold the legs together. Then they can be stored along the shop wall or hung out of the way.



To make benches, Douglas simply bends conduit at right angles to make legs.



A chain fastened to each leg keeps them from separating.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mike Douglas, Route 3, Box 55, Harmony, Minn. 55939 (ph 507 886-3456; E-mail: lauramik@means.net).

Farmer-Designed Belt Lacer Speeds Repairs

Seventy-year-old Melvin Garner bales about 1,800 acres of hay each year on his Durant, Okla., cattle farm, but thanks to a do-it-yourself belt lacer he came up with, broken belts are not the headache they once were. Garner says it's the fastest and easiest to use on the market and he now makes three different models: one specifically for JD balers, one for Heston/International balers, and one he calls his "American Style Lacer," that will work on any baler.

"They're all simple and easy to operate. They've got the squaring and trimming on them so there's no guess work about it," Garner says. "I'm a farmer and I don't like buying anything that's not any good. I designed these and got a company to make them for me. I did it because I got tired of the time spent having to leave the field when I broke a belt before."

With Garner's belt lacer, repairs are complete in as little as 15 minutes and the portability of the device allows farmers to make the repair right on the baler if they wish.

The Deere model and the Heston/International model are both patented, heat treated, and will lace 4-in. and 7-in. belts.

The American Style lacer is made of steel and comes in two different models. One fixes 4-in., 7-in. and 10-in. belts and costs \$210 U.S., while the other model fixes 4 to 18-in. belts and costs \$250 U.S.

"People can special order lacers to fix up to 20-in. belts like the conveyor belts used by fertilizer companies," Garner says.

Garner charges \$500 for the Deere and Heston/International belt lacers. He ships all lacers by UPS collect. They weigh about 45 lbs.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Melvin Garner, Garner Manufacturing, 204 Sunny Meadow Drive, Durant, Okla., 74701 (ph 580 924-2975).



Garner says his belt lacer is the fastest and easiest to use on the market. He makes three different models: one for Deere balers, one for Heston/International balers, and one he calls his "American Style Lacer," that will work on any baler.