#### Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

# **Simple Grounding Device For Welding Tables**

"One of the handiest gadgets in my shop is an auxiliary grounding device for my welding table. It's cheap and easy to make and is a real neat way to complete a welding task without burning up welding gloves," says Morgan Plant, Meridian, Idaho.

He started with a pair of 7-in. vise grips and attached a 4-ft. length of flexible-stranded no. 10 wire to it by drilling and tapping a 1/4 by 20 thread into the vise grip body. He attached the wire to the handle next to the adjusting screw in order to keep the wire parallel to the vise grip handles.

At the other end of the wire, he drilled and tapped a 1/4 by 20 thread to a small piece of 1/4-in, thick flat stock. He ground off the protruding thread so the bar would lay flat on the welding table, held down by a regular spring grounding clamp.

"When welding parts together in odd or unique positions, use the vise grips to grab that piece and hold it in the desired position. This action gives the grounding function a two-way chance to complete the grounding circuit, and it provides a neat way to hold



Auxiliary grounding device uses a pair of vise grips, allowing you to hold small parts in the desired position while completing the grounding circuit.

small parts," says Plant.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Morgan Plant, 300 S. Locust Grove Rd., Meridian, Idaho 83642.

### **Magnet Traps Metal Inside Oil Filter**

You can capture even the tiniest metal filings in any engine or hydraulic system with this new oil filter magnet.

It's designed to be inserted through the center hole of any spin-on filter with a metal core. For best results the company recommends using fresh magnets at every oil change. The magnet attracts up to 40 times more grit than the filter alone, without restricting oil flow.

"It catches metal fragments that are too small for an oil filter to stop, generally particles less than 30 microns in size," says James Friend of Kleen Lube, Blue Springs, Mo. He says Magna-Guard has been on the market since 1999 but has primarily been used in the heavy equipment and truck industry. "With prices for fuel and lubricants on the rise, we feel it's a good time to introduce the product to farmers," he told FARM SHOW.

According to Friend, Magna-Guard works better than wrap-around oil filter magnets "which are only 40 to 70 percent efficient because they're on the outside of the oil screen. Our magnets go inside the filter and are in direct contact with the fluid, so they're able to remove many times more contaminants."

The number of magnets needed depends on the capacity of the filter. The company recommends using one standard size magnet per 16 oz. of filter fluid capacity. So if you have a 1-quart filter or less, you need just



Magnet catches metal fragments too small for an oil filter to stop. It's designed to be dropped into the center hole of any spinon oil filter with a metal core.

one magnet. Quart-sized filters found on some pickups require two magnets. Tractor trailer rigs with 1-gal. primary filters should use eight standard size magnets.

The standard size magnets are about 1/4 by 3/8 by 1 1/2 in. and the mini size are 3/16 by 3/8 by 3/4 in. Two "minis" are the equivalent of one standard magnet.

Both the standard size and mini Magna-Guard magnets sell for \$5.99. One package of two standard size magnets sells for \$9.95. A 6-pack of four standard size magnets and two pairs of mini magnets sells for \$19.95. Lower priced bulk packs are also available.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kleen Lube, 1200 Corporate Centre, Blue Springs, Mo. 64015 (ph 816 686-5348; sales@kleenlube.com; www. kleenlube. com).

# Where To Go For Chain Saw Parts, Accessories

If you do a lot of chain saw work, here's where to go for replacement parts and wood cutting accessories.

Cutter's Choice carries saw chain, bars and sprockets, chaps, hardhats, gloves and other safety items. The company also offers log handling and log milling tools and accessories; small engine parts for Briggs & Stratton, Tecumseh, Honda, and Kohler engines; and parts for lawn mowers, weed trimmers, cutoff saws, and snowblowers.

If you're looking for a specific part you can call them up and have them search their

catalog, or you can do it yourself at their website.

"Our online ordering system is easy and practical, offering quality outdoor machines, parts and accessories at some of the best prices on the internet," says the company.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Cutter's Choice, 2008 East 33rd St., P.O. Box 10308, Erie, Penn. 16514 (ph 888 288-8371 or in Canada 888 817-4707; fax 800 983-7278; sales@cutterschoice.com; www.cutterschoice.com).

# **High Performance Paddles For NH Forage Harvesters**

Anyone with a New Holland FP230 or 240 forage harvester will be interested in these new high performance paddles that simply bolt on in place of the originals.

You simply unbolt the original paddles and bolt the new ones on in their place.

Inventors Luke Keller and his son, Dan, recently contacted FARM SHOW to explain why they came up with the idea.

"In March 2000 we bought a New Holland FP 240 forage harvester. We were very disappointed in the way it blows," says Luke. "We had a lot of trouble with hay plugging up right where it enters the blower and shearing the auger shear bolt. We also noticed that the blower housing was getting very hot. The problem was that haylage was getting pinched between the paddle and blower housing, which caused the paddle and blower housing to wear out prematurely."

Luke says two years ago New Holland sent out a news bulletin admitting they were having problems with the paddles and cross auger. "The company recalled the first year's 230 and 240 models and replaced them with new paddles and augers, but that failed to fix the problem. The paddles still wore out within a year. The company thought they had a problem with the auger, but the problem was really with the paddle," he explains.

He got fed up with all the problems he was having but didn't want to spend the money to trade machines. So he designed and patented new paddles and an air inlet. The bottom half of the new paddle has a cupped design.

"I know from years of farming that if you



High performance paddles simply bolt on in place of the original ones.

want to move silage you need a cupped paddle. It pulls material away from the side of the blower housing and also increases the air flow," says Luke. "Our new paddles and air inlet allow the forage chopper to blow haylage all the way to the back of a 20-ft. chopper wagon."

"Our paddle does a better job of sucking material away from the auger and eliminates the problem. Its wear is now comparable to that of the New Holland 900 series choppers."

On his own chopper, Keller cut a 1-ft. long, 8-in. wide hole in the top of the auger housing and tach welded an air inlet screen into it. The screen allows more air to flow into the blower.

Luke says he has sold several sets of paddles to farmers in his area and all are pleased with their performance.

The paddles sell for \$59 apiece plus \$10 S&H per set.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, High Performance Paddle LLC, 841 Burkettsville-St. Henry Rd., Ft. Recovery, Ohio 45846 (ph 419 375-4491 or 419 375-2608).

### **Do-It-Yourself Powder Coating System**

There's now a one-of-a-kind portable powder-coating machine on the market that allows any do-it-yourselfer to do what only high-tech manufacturing setups could do in the past.

Kevin Schlosser of Punnichy, Sask. is the exclusive Canadian distributor for the Xiom 1000 Plastic Coating System, and he bubbles with excitement about its revolutionary nature. "Because of this brand new portable system, it's possible to powder coat anything, of any size, indoor or out - and the kicker is that it's inexpensive!" he says.

With conventional powder-coating systems, paint is applied as a really fine dust, and an electric charge is used to stick it to the metal. Then, the powder-coated objects must be cured in big ovens. That's what makes conventional powder coating extremely costly. Schlosser says.

The new Xiom system weighs only 70 lbs. (not including gas cylinders) and it can be used anywhere compressed air is available. It works by mixing propane from a standard propane tank, oxygen from any size of cylinder, and compressed air to provide a perfect flame. This flame heats up the specially designed powdered plastic coatings to their melting point and ejects them onto the surface that needs to be plastic coated. The melted plastic chemically bonds to the surface and hardens and cures instantly. There is no dripping and no hanging parts to dry!

"With the portable Xiom system, you can coat anything - including things that would have incincrated in an oven, like cardboard. You can also do interior walls, your bathtub, or any other object of any size," he says. "Because the type of paint that's applied is actually a hard plastic, it's more durable and



Xiom powder coat system lets you put a premium paint job on almost anything.

water resistant than regular powder coating.

"The paint itself is very cheap and you can do the work right on site. To set up a very basic, modest, conventional powder coating system, it used to cost between \$100,000 and \$150,000, but the Xiom system costs only \$10,500 (Can.)," Schlosser says. "Regarding operating costs, you can run it steady for \$100 per week. Also, its ease of operation means that anyone can learn how in a matter of hours. You don't need extensive training."

The system is made up of two components. A console controls the pressures and flow of each of the three gases, as well as the delivery of the coating material. A gun diffuses the gases to form a proper flame and allows the user to stop or start the coating process. The gun spray options are a 1-in. wide spray (standard heat-applied version) or a 9-in. wide spray (electric version, which is coming soon).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kevin Schlosser, Jaddak Creations, Box 37, Punnichy, Sask., Canada S0A 3C0 (ph 866 314-1819 or 306 835-2427; sales@jaddak.com; www.jaddak.com).