



Portable power unit can be used on a pickup, trailer, or even as a stand-alone unit. It can be used for both pto and hydraulic work.



Mounted on a trailer, unit can be used to split logs or to do other jobs.

Easy Way To Add PTO, Hydraulics To Pickup

"I built it because I wanted to free up a tractor. It's a cheap source of power," says Roger Nikolai, Loyal, Wis., about the portable power unit he built for both pto and hydraulic work. The self-contained unit can be used on a pickup, trailer, or even as a stand-alone unit.

It has its own engine so no modification of the pickup is required. It mounts on vibration-free rubber skids and simply anchors itself in the pickup's stake pockets. A throttle controls engine speed which in turn controls pto speed, and a lever puts the pto in and out of gear.

Several models are available from 6 1/2 to 24 hp and they come with or without hydraulics. They can operate any hydraulic or low power pto equipment such as self-unloading forage wagons, fertilizer spreaders, power

gravity boxes, manure pumps, hay or grain elevators, wood splitters, hay rakes and small augers. Models sell for \$1,000 to \$3,800, depending on design and horsepower.

"It's an entirely new concept because it doesn't operate off the pickup or interfere with it in any way," says Nikolai. "The big advantage is that you can get around faster with a pickup than using a tractor. Models equipped with hydraulics have pressure and flow rates comparable to most 80 to 100 hp tractors."

The engine belt-drives the pto and uses a chain-driven gear reduction system. Models with hydraulic capability have remote outlets and are equipped with a direct-drive hydraulic pump that operates independently from the pto.

The smaller units can be lifted by two

people. Larger models may require use of a loader.

"It works better than anything else on the market. A lot of people want a pto in back of their pickup, but they don't want to tear their truck apart to do it," says Nikolai. "The whole idea for this started five years ago when I wanted to use my ATV to rake hay. I started with a 5 hp Briggs & Stratton engine which I mounted on a small metal frame with wheels. But once I started building it, I wondered if I could make something to put in my pickup and use to operate a self-unloading forage wagon. I was able to haul loads from fields five miles away to our farm and unload into a silo blower. I pulled up to the blower with the pickup and unloaded the wagon, then went back down the road at highway speeds. It eliminated the need to switch back and forth

between tractors and pickups all the time."

Nikolai says he has taken the unit to several farm shows where people often come up with new uses. "One farmer said he might use it every day with a self-unloading feed wagon to feed his cattle on a farm two miles away. He would save time by driving at highway speeds. Another farmer said the hydraulics could be used to operate a big bi-fold hay rake without the need for a tractor. The hydraulics could also be used to load seed and fertilizer into a planter."

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3-Pt. "Power Pack" Turns Pickup Into Tractor

"Our new portable 3-pt. hitch power pack lets a pickup or trailer do the work of a Cat. 1 tractor. It has hydraulics and a pto so you can use it to operate post hole diggers, mowers, sprayers, and other equipment. You don't have to modify the pickup at all," says Joe Raimondo, Bunnell, Fla. He exhibited the unit at the recent INPEX invention show in Pennsylvania where it won a silver medal.

The Agro-Doall portable 3-pt. hitch is a self-contained unit that can operate most attachments that would normally require a tractor. It's designed to mount in the bed of any 1/2 or 1-ton pickup. Power is supplied by a 24 hp Honda gas engine that drives a hydraulic pump. The pto and 3-pt. lift arms mount on a backing plate that fits into the pickup's receiver hitch.

Four hydraulic hoses go over the pickup tailgate. Two of the hoses are used to raise and lower the 3-pt. arms, while the other two operate the pto. The pto can be operated in either forward or reverse by simply flipping a lever.

The unit is also available with a 30 hp Yanmar diesel engine which can perform the same operations as the gas engine unit but offers more torque and engine life with improved fuel economy.

Also available is a unit powered by a 12-volt chargeable battery pack that charges through the pickup's trailer power plug. It has a 3-pt. hitch but not a pto. It can be used to raise, lower and transport 3-pt. implements.

"Whatever you can do with a Cat. 1 tractor, you can do from the comfort of your pickup with this unit," says Raimondo. "The pto has unbelievable torque. The reversible feature on the pto can come in handy. For example, if a post hole auger gets stuck all you have to do is flip a lever to operate the



Power is supplied by a 24 hp Honda gas engine that drives a hydraulic pump. The pto and 3-pt. lift arms mount on a backing plate that fits into pickup's receiver hitch.

auger in the opposite direction. Or if a conveyor belt gets caught you can reverse the pto to reverse the belt.

"The 3-pt. has power up, power down, and draft control. The power down feature really comes in handy for doing scraper work, because you can apply down pressure to the blade.

"You can also leave the hydro pack in the field to operate a well pump or in your barn to operate a generator.

"We also offer a drawbar equipped with a pto for cases where you don't need a 3-pt. hitch. It's designed to fit into the pickup's receiver hitch and will pull any implement with drawbar capability. Works great for larger implements such as a 15-ft. mower."

Also available is a backhoe kit that attaches any smaller backhoe to your pickup.

The gas Hydro-Pack with backing plate sells for less than \$5,000. The diesel hydro-pack sells for less than \$10,000. The 12-volt hydro-pack with backing plate sells for less than \$3,000.

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Portable 3-pt. hitch can operate attachments that would normally require a tractor.



Pickup-mounted 3-pt. hitch has power up, power down, and draft control.