

Orland Ohe uses an old IH 914 pull-type combine like a giant gearbox to power 2 conveyors and a gravel screener.



Combine Powers Gravel Screener

Orland Ohe runs his sand and gravel business with the help of a combine. Like a giant gearbox, the old IH 914 pull-type combine transfers tractor pto power to two conveyors and a screener.

"I used to hire a contractor to come in and screen gravel for me," says Ohe. "I was able to pick up some used conveyors and a screener to do it myself. Without the combine, I would have needed a big diesel genset and electric motors on all the equipment."

Instead, Ohe gutted the 914, stripping away the cylinder, straw walker, sieves and hopper. The grain platform and anything not related to jackshafts, chassis and the pto were gone.

He pulled the remains of the combine into position at the quarry and set up the feeder conveyor with its screener deck mounted to the top of the combine. Ohe ran a drive belt from a pulley on the jackshaft that previously powered the cylinder to the screener.

A second jackshaft runs the stacking conveyor for screened sand and gravel, while the pulley that ran the feeder house now runs the oversize rock conveyor.

The feeder conveyor was the only one too far away to be powered by belts off the combine. Here, too, Ohe took advantage of the tractor. He mounted a hydraulic motor on the feeder conveyor and ran hoses to the tractor.

"I didn't even have to buy new belts," says



Conveyor and gravel screener mount across at top of combine and are belt-driven off combine's feederhouse pulley.

Ohe. "I just set up the conveyors to match the belts I had. Using the combine, I knew I could just go to my local IH dealer if I needed replacement parts."

Ohe says the old conveyors cost him only \$350. The combine was free, as it hadn't been used in years, and a friend gave it to him. Best of all, the system worked better than a standard feeder conveyor and screener unit would.

"The screener unit had been attached to the end of the feeder conveyor," says Ohe. "That way you could only do a load at a time. With the three conveyors, I can stockpile 10 to 15 loads without stopping."

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To keep corn stalks and stones from flying up toward the cab on his tractor as he chopped stalks, Harold Fratzke bolted a 2-ft. deep length of grain conveyor belting across the front of his Balzer stalk chopper.

Chopper-Mounted Belt Keeps Trash Off Tractor

Tired of watching corn stalks and small stones fly up toward the cab on his tractor as he chopped stalks, Harold Fratzke decided to take matters into his own hands. He bolted a 2-ft. deep length of grain conveyor belting across the front of his Balzer stalk chopper.

The stalk chopper handles eight 30-in. rows. He mounted the 1/4-in. thick belting on sq. tubing that he bolted on across the entire front end of the chopper. He also welded a steel plate onto the chopper.

"It definitely stops a lot of trash and is

worth a whole lot to me," says Fratzke. "The chopper's blades sling trash and even small stones forward toward the tractor. The chopper came equipped with metal plates that hang down and swing forward and backward to stop some of the trash, but they don't do a very good job. My conveyor belt reaches down lower and almost drags on the ground."

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Shocker Classic train horn is actually 4 horns, each sounding the right note to make the perfect chord.

Air Horn Sounds Like Real Train

Not everyone wants a train horn under the hood of their vehicle. But for those who do, HornBlasters offers a couple of models that are more than just loud.

"They are precision instruments that sound just like a train. All our Shocker horns are made in the U.S. and hand-tuned," says Matt Heller, owner of HornBlasters, based in Florida. His best selling Shocker Classic train horn is actually four horns, each sounding the right note to make the perfect chord.

The air horn comes with a small 12-volt air compressor, 2-gal. air tank, and all the air line and fittings required for hookup for \$480. The system is weatherproof and fits under the vehicle's standard horn, which can also still be used.

The durable fiberglass reinforced plastic horns resonate with a deep sound (142 decibels).

"As a rule of thumb, if you see a chrome air horn, that's not a train horn," Heller notes, adding that kits that only sell three horns also don't create the right train horn chord.

The majority of HornBlasters' customers

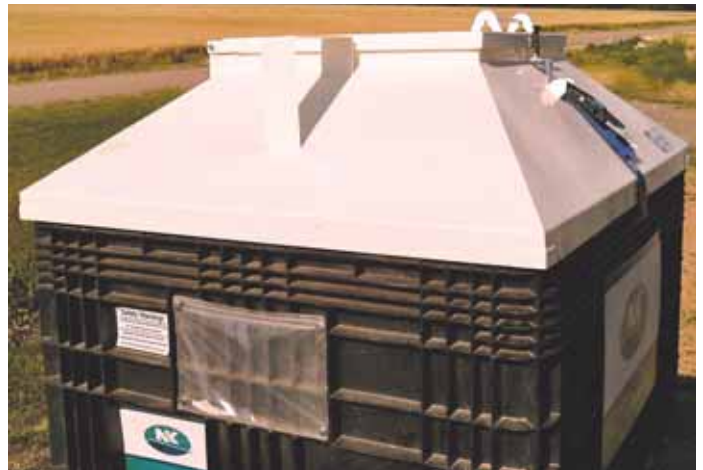
are male and live in the Midwest or South, but they come from all walks of life. Many own trucks, but the horns work on all kinds of cars, motorcycles, ATV's and custom made trains and models.

"Guys that hear it say, 'I don't know why I need it, but I have to have it,'" Heller says. Just like using any loud tool, he tells customers to use good judgment when blasting the 7-second horn – with ear protection and at least 100 ft. from people. Some tie it to their car alarm, which definitely draws unwanted attention.

HornBlasters also sells the "Godfather of horns", the Nathan AirChime (156 decibels) made of diecast aluminum for \$1,500. For people who want to spend less, HornBlasters offers an imported air horn for \$250.

Check the website to hear how the horns sound and to find out more information.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, HornBlasters, 39440 Pattie Rd., Zephyr Hills, Fla. 33540 (ph 877 209-8179; www.HornBlasters.com).



Terry Jacob built domed metal lids for his bulk seed boxes to replace the original flat lids, making it easier to use the boxes to handle his own seed.

Domed Lid Makes Bulk Seed Box Waterproof, Refillable

A simple domed metal lid makes bulk seed boxes a lot more useful for Terry Jacob of Sedgwick, Kan.

"I use several bulk boxes on my farm to handle seed wheat and seed that I use for cover crops. The boxes originally came with flat plastic lids that are difficult to put on and take off," says Jacob.

He went to Cab's Fab & Welding, a local welding and fabrication shop, and had them fabricate a waterproof lid that weighs about 50 lbs. It comes with a pair of forklift pockets and is attached to the box with a pair of nylon straps that hook onto the bulk box. The hinged door on top is secured to the lid by a rubber latch.

"I prefer to have the doors hinged but they could also slide open if the user preferred a different design," says Jacob.

Caleb Becker of Cab's Fab Welding now makes the lids for sale. "They're easy to use and watertight. The dome shape adds capacity so more bushels can be added to the boxes," says Caleb.

Jacobs made a trailer that holds up to 4 bulk boxes at a time. He uses it in the fall to plant wheat that he'll harvest the following spring, or rye used as a cover crop in corn. He loads up with wheat seed that he stores in bins on his farm, positioning the trailer under the bins' unloading auger. The lid is built strong enough that he can stand on top of it.

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