Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

Hydra-Snap™ can connect hydraulic hoses and electronics while under pressure with one grip handle.



Add-On Makes Hydraulic Connections A Snap

Westendorf, a manufacturer of front-end loaders for over 80 years, says their patented Hydra-Snap™ add-on lets you quickly couple multiple hydraulic hose configurations in a single motion.

It's a metal box with remote outlets that mounts ahead of the cab. Each hose is fastened to a self-aligning keyed plate, so the hoses stay organized. You can add it to an existing loader or upgrade your Westendorf loader package at purchase to include it.

The device's one-lever manifold ensures a spill-free connection point, and the patented spiral lock technology makes it hassle-free to put into place. It's easy to install, simple to use, and best of all, the device's space-saving design makes it useful for different locations and applications.

By design, all hoses connected to the Hydra-Snap will merge into a keyed, multicoupling unit that keeps them aligned and organized with minimal risk of mixing them up. The unit is self-storing and comes with a dust cover to keep the hydraulic connections clean when not in use. An integrated electronic connection is also available

To disconnect the hydraulics, you rotate a lever on the back of the box 90 degrees. Reconnecting again requires inserting the hose assembly plate and rotating the lever back to its prior position.

Thanks to its universal design, the Hydra-Snap can work with almost all loader models and other implements with hydraulic hoses, including balers, planters, snow blowers, and disc blows.

At publication, the Hydra-Snap comes in four and six-line models. Contact Westendorf directly for current pricing information.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Westendorf Online Parts Store, (ph 877-423-0070); sales@westendorfinfg.com; www.store.loaders.com/Accessories/Manifold/Hydra-Snap).

Portable Bandsaw Stand

Cutting small shapes with his portable bandsaw is easy since Ron Rawls built a stand. Stands available commercially were too expensive, too complicated, and often limited to certain bandsaws. They required clamping the bandsaw to the stand or even unbolting the handle.

"I looked at what was out there and came up with a simple alternative that didn't require clamping or unbolting handles," says Rawls. "I use my portable bandsaw a lot, but sometimes I want it to be stationary. With my stand, it takes less than 5 sec. to go from stationary to portable."

Rawls eyeballed the design of the bandsaw and began by cutting two pieces of 1 1/2-in. square tubing for an upright. He welded them together at an angle to match the shape of the bandsaw when held vertically. He added 1-in. tubing with slotted ends to either side of the upright. He knew the space between the slots would match the width of the bandsaw handle. A piece of U-shaped plastic attached near the bottom of the angled upright centers the bandsaw.

"I slide the handle into the slot, and the weight helps keep it in place," says Rawls.

Satisfied with the vertical, Rawls buttwelded it to a 10 by 16-in, steel base. He admits he would have liked a larger base. However, very much larger and he knows it would've been in the way when using the stand.

"If I need more stability, I can always clamp the base plate to a work surface," says Rawls.

With the bandsaw held in place, the only remaining challenge was switching it on and off. His model didn't have a lock-on trigger.

"I used a piece of high-density polyethylene to center the bandsaw on the stand," says Rawls. "I cut out a second piece designed to slip over the trigger and hold it in the running



Rawls used square tubing to make his own custom bandsaw stand.



High-density polyethylene holding the trigger in the on position.

position. When I want to shut the saw off, it's easy to pull out."

Rawls has used the stand to make several items for himself and others.

"It makes it easy to cut out small pieces or shapes where I need two hands on the piece," says Rawls.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ron Rawls, 4432 Benton Dr., Lufkin, Texas 75901 (ph 936-676-0052; ron.rsrawls@gmail.com).

How To Organize Nut Drivers, Sockets

FARM SHOW reader Phil Tilley grew tired of never finding the right-sized nut driver or sockets. Digging through his toolboxes for the correct piece proved too tedious, so he came up with an idea for organizing them.

He purchased a safe deposit box from Harbor Freight and modified it by drilling holes through the top and mounting socket rails on it. This made it possible to keep each nut driver in one spot while organizing the sockets by size on the sliders, one section for 1/2 in. and another for 1/4 in. The safe deposit box still works to keep larger tools stored underneath. Now he can find what he wants at a glance. "This organizing system has saved me hours of searching around," he says.



Tilley mounted socket rails to the top of a safe deposit box to keep his tools organized.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Phil Tilley, 366 N Bellview Rd, Aragon, Ga. 30104 (ph 770-316-8000).

LED Combine Lights Sold In Kits

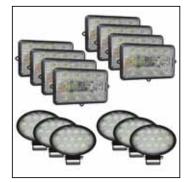
K&M Manufacturing sells Tiger Lights LED light kits for Deere and Case IH combines. Each lighting kit makes it possible to fully outfit your combine with LED lights.

One example is the JDKIT4, priced at \$1,461. This kit is meant for Deere combines with rectangular lights on top of the cab (buy oval lights with the JDKIT5). Included in the kit are eight TL9000 headlights and six TL5655 field lights.

Purchased individually from Tiger Lights, the TL9000 lights are priced at \$111 each, while the TL5655 field lights are \$107. This brings the light set's total value to \$1,530, for a savings of approximately \$70 when purchasing the kit compared to buying them individually.

These LED lights illuminate up to 330 percent brighter than halogen bulbs. They are IP68 rated, meaning that the lights are impervious to dust and water resistant to a maximum depth of 1.5 meters for 30 mins. They include stainless steel hardware for durable mounting and streamlined assembly.

Each has built-in filters that will eliminate unwanted radio and electromagnetic frequencies, and their die-cast aluminum housing offers long-term durability even through rugged use. Better yet, the LEDs emit light at a frequency near the color spectrum of the mid-day sun to optimize conditions



K & M Tiger Lights LED set for John Deere Combines.

for the human eye. This improves comfort and makes it easier to stay focused while on the job

The lights are made with a durable polycarbonate lens. Since aluminum works to dissipate heat away from the light's internal electronics, the lights will provide excellent light output and consistent performance over time.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, K&M Manufacturing (ph 800-328-1752; www. tractorseats.com).

Carburetor Floats Made With Nitrophyl

If you need a new float for a carburetor repair or restoration, try Nitrophyl. It's easy to drill, mill or carve, and it's impervious to all fluids.

"It's a state-of-the-art material; nothing phases it," says Wendell Kelch, Kelch Restoration Services.

Kelch should know. He's restored hundreds of old tractors, some for himself, but most for customers, with his five to six full-time employees. He buys Nitrophyl for use in his shop but has to buy in quantities beyond his needs from his supplier.

"It's so good, we decided to sell the extra," says Kelch.

Nitrophyl is a nitrile rubber ebonite formulation that has been used for floats for more than 60 years. It's resistant to gasoline, diesel, LP and automotive oils, such as power steering fluid, motor oil and various chemicals and solvents. Different companies make their own proprietary versions.

Kelch's source makes a proprietary Nitrophyl for their own line of products for the aviation industry and other markets. Like Kelch, they sell the excess.

He offers rectangular and round blocks of the material. He has priced 3 by 3 by 1-in. thick blocks and 2-in. diameter by 3-in. long round blocks at \$20. A 6 by 6 by 1-in. thick



Nitrophyl is resistant to gasoline, diesel, LP and automotive oils, such as power steering fluid, motor oil and various chemicals and solvents.

block costs \$65.

"I've used this material for years with no issues whatever," says Kelch. "We also sell an adhesive for bonding multiple layers."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kelch Restoration Service, 3727 Starling Rd., Bethel, Ohio 45106 (ph 513-543-9477; wkelch2501@aol.com).