

Pipe Repair Isolator Saves Time

With the EasyFit Isolator, there's no need to drain or freeze pressurized pipes before repair. The UK-based product is now available in the U.S. for HVAC, plumbing and mechanical contractors in commercial, industrial and agricultural industries.

"We discovered EasyFit Isolator because we had an application for work at the Veterans Administration Hospital. Instead of freezing lines, we looked at other products and decided this was the best for that project," says Andrew Kan for the California-based company serving as the U.S. manufacturing representative. Because of their technical skills, the UK company partnered with them.

Videos on the website show how to clamp on the valve and drill into the pipe to install the EasyFit Isolator. Once in place, it's a permanent valve that can be closed whenever work is needed.

"If you have to rent a machine to freeze the lines, it's an expensive and tricky process. Also, with the unfreeze, there can be problems. This product is much faster and cleaner," Kan says.

With EasyFit, you don't have to shut off water to other areas to make repairs.

"In Arizona and Nevada, they can't shut down the cooling loop, so in hotter states, there is interest from the HVAC side," he says.

Currently, the California company sells EasyFit Isolators in three sizes for 1/2, 3/4



With the EasyFit valve, you don't need to shut off water or freeze lines to make repairs.

and 1-in. copper and PEX lines. Prices start at \$250. In the future, they may add larger lines (up to 8-in.) for industrial use, Kan says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, EasyFit Isolator U.S.A., 16626 Parkside Ave., Cerritos, Calif. 90703 (ph 562-452-4202; sales@EasyFitIsolator.us; www.easyfitisolator.us).

Old Laundry Tub Makes Handy Oil Reservoir

Chris Nielsen has invented several handy gadgets to make jobs simpler around his farm and repair shop, but none of them helps keep his shop clean as well as his used oil reservoir.

Nielsen changes a lot of oil in trucks, cars, campers and tractors that he dumps in large 50 gal. steel barrels for recycling. "I used different size funnels for quite a while, but the screens were never large enough, and getting the waste oil into the drum was always a long process," Nielsen says. "One day, it dawned on me that an old laundry tub would work a lot better as a big reservoir because of its large drain and solid square bottom."

Nielsen set a sturdy old laundry tub on top of a 50 gal. waste drum with the tub drain extending into the top of the barrel. He placed a wire basket with 1-in. feet inside the tub to act as a strainer. "Most of the time, I just run the oil into the tub basket from my waste oil transfer pump. I can also put a smaller screen on top of the basket to remove smaller debris," Nielsen says.

The setup also works great to drain filters. He stands them on the large screen and any oil in the filters runs out through the screen into the bottom of the tub and into the barrel.

"The best part of this idea is that it cost nothing and works great," Nielsen says. "The worst part is that I didn't think of it the



Nielsen uses an old square laundry sink as a catch basin and funnel to drain used oil into 50-gal. drums.

first time a funnel tipped over and dumped a gallon of dirty oil on my shop floor," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Nielsen Truck Repair, 25757 Galaxie Ave. West, Farmington, Minn. 55024.

Air-Tight Primer Stops Rust

Pat Mastricola figured a primer designed to stand up to 5,000 hrs. of salt spray would do the job on the cars he restores. It worked so well that he started making and selling a special formulation he calls Mastercoat Permanent Rust Sealer (MPRS). With his additives and application process, he claims it will withstand 14,000 hrs. of salt spray.

For Mastricola, developing the process began with his frustration as a restorer in the 1970's. "I could put 14 coats of paint on a car, sanding every coat and have a rust bubble develop in a year," he recalls. "I met a guy at a paint industry show, and he told me about this primer that had been developed for bridges exposed to saltwater. I made some changes in it and have been using it and selling it ever since."

While most of Mastricola's customers are car restorers, the primer has found an additional market for restoring older steel roofs. As with cars, the silver-colored Mastercoat seals in and stops rust. He also recommends it for equipment subject to corrosion, like salt and fertilizer application equipment.

Mastricola recommends at least two coats of his Mastercoat Permanent Rust Sealer and one coat of Mastercoat Chassis Black or AG111 as a topcoat. He notes that MPRS also accepts any choice of topcoat paint.

He compares it to a standard restoration using two coats of automotive epoxy, five coats of color and two coats of clear.

While Mastricola concedes that any paint is technically a rust preventative, if it doesn't cut off oxygen, the rust will continue to develop.

"Our Mastercoat is the only one that's airtight," says Mastricola. "That's why I have restoration companies who have been with me for 30 years. Every car they do is primed with Mastercoat."

Mastricola continues to restore old cars himself. He owns eight older cars. However, having used his product, repainting is not on the calendar.



Mastercoat Permanent Rust Sealer on a salt truck chassis and older steel roof.



PM Industries is a two-person family business. Mastricola and his daughter Angela make every batch of primer in small quantities. With minimal advertising and virtually no social media presence, word of mouth from satisfied customers is the source of most new orders.

"We sell five to 10 orders a day," says Mastricola. "Every individual gets personal service."

Based on calls he gets, Mastricola says that younger people are getting involved in restoration. "They're fun because they don't have a lot of experience," he says. "I can spend half an hour explaining the process to them."

Mastercoat Permanent Rust Sealer is priced at \$39.95 per quart or \$128 per gallon.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, PM Industries Mastercoat, 939 Westbrook Rd., West Milford, N.J. 07480 (ph toll-free 800-833-8933; pmmasterseries@gmail.com; www.nomorerust.com).



"With the Quick Spotter there is no need to get on and off to lock it on the forks," says Glendon Kuhns, Norden Manufacturing.

Forklift-Mounted Trailer Mover

The Quick Spotter from Norden Manufacturing is designed to mount on forklift forks to move trailers and wagons smoothly into place. The Quick Spotter slides on and self-locks to most 5,000-lb. and less forks. Drop the forks to the ground and the locks release, letting you slide them out.

"The Quick Spotter lets you move a trailer into place and then quickly slide the forks out to use them loading the trailer or for other jobs," says Jerald Schlabach, inventor of the Quick Spotter. "We designed it with multiple hitch types for the most popular and common types of trailers."

Schlabach initially made and marketed the Quick Spotter as the Trailer Mover. He recently turned over manufacturing and distribution of the 57-in. long by 33-in. wide by 16 3/4-in. tall device to Norden Manufacturing. It is made from 3/16-in. thick mild steel and has a lift capacity of 5,100 lbs. They rebranded it and are selling it for \$950 plus shipping.

"With the Quick Spotter there is no need to get on and off to lock it on the forks," says

Glendon Kuhns, Norden Manufacturing.

Choose from a clevis pin hitch or any one of three ball sizes, 1 7/8-in., 2-in. or 2 5/16-in. for bumper hitch trailers. A gooseneck hitch ball is centered on the mover. The Quick Spotter even offers storage for an extra pin.

"The Quick Spotter makes it easy to get under the jack on heavy deck-over, bumper-pull trailers," says Schlabach. "Centering the load between the forks adds stability to moving a loaded trailer."

Schlabach designed the mover for use at his pallet company. He notes that it is a safer alternative to simply drilling a hole in a fork and installing a ball.

"Drilling a hole in a fork weakens it and can cause it to bend," says Schlabach. "OSHA has a rule against it for that reason."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jerald Schlabach, 1858 County Rd. 1300 E, Sullivan, Ill. 61951 (ph 217-543-3555); or Norden Manufacturing, 4210 Kinsman Rd. NW, North Bloomfield, Ohio 44450 (ph 877-296-5851; www.nordenmfg.com).