

“Tie Boss” Secures Loads & Hoists Them Up

U.S.-made. Easy to use. Lifetime warranty. Those are things customers appreciate about the Tie Boss. It's a handy tool for tying down or hoisting up loads.

“About 80 percent of people with trucks don't need ratchet straps,” says Rich Meissner, product manager for Tie Boss. It's more than they need to strap down an appliance or occasional load, plus using ratchets can be challenging.

“Tie Boss works similar to a Venetian blind,” Meissner says. Just pull the rope to tighten or hoist up something. Tuck the rope behind a safety tab to secure it for hauling. To release, just pull the rope at an angle to release.

Tie Boss was invented about 12 years ago, with outdoorsmen in mind, to secure ATVs, snowmobiles and hunting and fishing gear. The 3/8-in. Tie Boss (\$22) has a 300-lb. load limit, so four of them secure equipment up to 1,200 lbs. As part of the block and tackle package (\$70), hunters use it to hoist up wild game or items 300 lbs. or less.

As the product was introduced at trade shows, new markets realized its value and specific uses were developed. Jeep owners appreciate the jeep top sling to lift the tops off their Jeeps. Slings for kayaks and ladders create garage storage solutions using the 1/4-in. Tie Boss (\$16) with a 150-lb. weight capacity.

At the Oshkosh, Wis., air show, Meissner notes he sells Tie Boss slings to store plane wings out of the way.

Tie Boss is built to last, made of glass-filled



Tie Boss can be used to secure or store loads in place of ratchet straps.

nylon polymer that is boiled to fuse water into plastic to increase its strength by 10 percent. The Tie Boss hardware has a limited lifetime warranty, and it comes with 10 ft. of solid braid, polypropylene rope.

“Once people purchase and use it, they find so many uses for it,” Meissner says.

Farmers use it to secure square hay bales. Campers and hunters hoist up coolers in bear country. Bird lovers use it to raise and lower bird feeders.

Tie Boss can be found at NAPA Auto Parts and online.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tie Boss, LLC, 1711 Commerce Dr., Piqua, Ohio 45335 (ph 937-570-4529; 877-900-2677 Canada; sales@tieboss.com; www.tieboss.com).

Draft Eliminator Reduces Workshop Heating Costs

Tony Bunniss built an extension on his tuck-under garage to expand it to a 4-car garage, which Bunniss heated and air-conditioned. The original garage section then became a machine shop.

Preventing cold winds from blowing through became a challenge, and Bunniss knew that merely caulking the cracks wasn't going to cut it.

Bunniss first installed insulated doors. “Then, I installed a vinyl flexible seal that is mounted into a doorstop type, wood trim. It can only be installed lightly touching the door, or it puts too much of a drag on the opener,” he shares.

This system worked well through the summer, but winter winds posed a problem. As Bunniss explains, “While the seal would initially touch the door, blowing winds would bounce the door and push it away. Being that the material was cold and stiff, it would not follow the edge of the door to maintain a seal.”

As a result, snow tended to accumulate inside the door, making his furnace run nearly full time.

The solution was to build four devices (two for each door) to hold each door joint against the vinyl strip.

“This draft eliminator is initially set by just closing the door, which spring-loads the hook,” he explains. “As the door comes down, the hook latches into the slot, which happens during the last inch or so of door travel. It then pulls down on the rod that is connected to the three roller housing's levers.”

The rod compresses the unlatching spring, located on the top of the rod, which pulls the rod up upon opening the door, pivoting the latches away so that the door hinge below it



By closing the door, a spring-loaded hook latches into a slot. As wind moves the door, the latching spring will pivot the latches tighter, holding the door tight to eliminate gaps.

clears each of the latches as the door moves upwards.

With this system, wind becomes an advantage. “As the wind rocks the door back and forth, the latching spring will pivot the latches tighter, eventually, holding the door against the vinyl strip/door jam, tight enough so that the wind can't vibrate it.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tony Bunniss, Webster, Minn. (glennlee1964@gofast.am).



Besler flatbeds can be configured with a formed end gate, removable side rails and steps that bolt under the toolboxes.

Skirted Flatbeds Make Great Tool Carriers

“Our company builds two series of skirted flatbeds that safely and efficiently organize field worker's tools,” says Cliff Kester of Besler Industries, Inc. in Neb. “The 9000 series has four toolboxes under the deck and hinged side rails that fold down. The 8000 series has four toolboxes under the deck along with stake pockets and a rub rail. Toolboxes can also be added on the deck of an 8000 series bed.” Kester says all of the toolboxes are completely modular so a customer can arrange boxes on the deck of the bed to fit their needs.

Besler also builds 6000 and 7000 series basic flatbeds. The 6000 is a base bed with stake pockets and a rub rail and the 7000 is a base bed with a hinged side rail that folds down. Options include drawers for the front mount toolboxes, dividers for the top taper boxes, ladder racks and a shovel box.

Kester says Besler flatbeds are made using

tough 11-ga. deck plate with 4-in. channel stringers and 3/16-in. cross member channels. Standard equipment includes a bolt-in 30,000 lb. ball for gooseneck trailers and woven harnesses for lights. Four pin and seven blade trailer connectors are integral on the back. There's also an option for a B & W flush mount or a Ball & Puck flush mount gooseneck assembly instead of the standard recessed 30,000 lb. gooseneck ball. Kester says beds can also be configured with a formed end gate, removable side rails and steps that bolt under the toolboxes. “These options and others can be found on the Besler Industries website in the ‘Build Your Own Flatbed’ section of the home page,” Kester says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Besler Industries, Inc., 40855 West Hwy 6/34, Cambridge, Neb. 69022 (ph 308-697-4698; www.beslerindustries.com).

Cordless Tools Converted To Run On Car Battery

“The batteries on my Hitachi 18-volt drill and my 12-volt sawzall would no longer take a charge, even though I hadn't used either tool very much. After checking out the cost of replacement batteries, I decided to convert both tools to operate off the 12-volt battery on any vehicle,” says Charles Kunau, Bellevue, Iowa.

“I got rid of the batteries, then cut off both ends of a 20-ft. long extension cord. I attached a pair of female spade connectors to one end and then hooked up to the male connectors on the tool battery.”

At the other end of the extension cord, he attached battery clamps that hook up to the

vehicle's battery.

“Now I have power wherever I go, and I don't have to worry about rechargeable batteries going dead,” says Kunau. “People are often surprised that a 12-volt car battery has enough power to operate an 18-volt tool, but it does. That's because the 12-volt battery on a vehicle has much higher amperage than an 18-volt battery on a cordless tool, and therefore produces more power per volt,” notes Kunau.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Charles Kunau, 32909 320th St., Bellevue, Iowa 52031 (charliekunau@hotmail.com).

Handy Fence Wire Unroller

Idaho rancher Lynn Thomas needed to build several miles of fence with limited help. At 78 years old, he needed to come up with a new way to get the job done.

Wire unrollers he'd seen either unrolled too fast or easily got tangled up. So he made a simple one using a 13-in. tire off a small car still mounted on the rim with a 3/8-in. round metal plate on top of it. A metal rod is driven down through the plate and tire into the ground.

“It works well because the friction between the metal plate and the roll of wire creates a little drag that acts like a brake. The wire won't start spinning out of control,” says Thomas, who used the method to unroll 4 miles of 5-strand barbed wire fence.

The device stays in place even when pulling some long runs - even up to 1/4 mile. Even in brushy, uneven terrain, two people can readily pull the wire with one at the end of the wire and the other back 75 to 100 ft.

“I've never had anything that worked as well as this and we've built more than 25



Thomas built a fence wire unroller using a small car tire and rim with a metal plate and rod.

miles off fence over the past 55 years on this ranch,” says Thomas.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lynn Thomas, Box 215, Salmon, Idaho 83467 (ph 208-756-2841).