

They Rebuild IH Hydro Tractor Transmissions

If you own an older model International Harvester "Hydro" tractor, you'll be interested in the service provided by an Iowa company that rebuilds the tractor's hydrostatic transmission at far less cost than the price of a new transmission.

Steffen Fluid Power, Sioux City, Iowa has been rebuilding hydrostatic transmissions on IH tractors for years, mainly for another company. Now they're expanding their efforts to include working directly with farmers and local repair shops.

"The charge pump is the part that fails most often on these transmissions," says Dave Harder. "Unfortunately, you can't buy parts to repair the charge pump from Case IH. The alternative is to buy a new charge pump from Case IH for more than \$2,000, or try to find a replacement charge pump at a salvage yard. However, it's hard to find a replacement charge pump at salvage yards because they all get worn. To solve the problem, we con-

tract with a machine shop that makes the parts we need to rebuild the pumps. So instead of spending more than \$2,000 for a new charge pump, we can usually rebuild the one you already have for about \$600. The pump fits right into the tractor transmission without requiring any modification to the tractor at all. Usually, rebuilding the charge pump is part of a complete transmission rebuild."

Harder says they can completely rebuild the hydrostatic transmission on any of the 12 different IH Hydro tractor models, all of them built before the early 1980's. "There are a lot of old IH hydrostatic drive tractors still out there working every day. Farmers like them for doing chores and especially for loader work."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dave Harder, Steffen Fluid Power, 623 West 7th St., Sioux City, Iowa 51103 (ph 800 783-3832; email: dharder@steffeninc.com).

"Downdraft" Cutting Table

After Brad Noth bought a Hypertherm 1000 plasma cutter, he decided he needed a better cutting table and ventilation system. "The plasma cutter is an excellent machine but it produces a lot of heavy smoke," he says.

So he built a portable downdraft cutting table equipped with its own fan exhaust. Smoke is pulled down through the table, which is partially open on top. From there it goes through a pair of curved 8-in. dia. holes to a couple of squirrel cage fans mounted on one side of the table. The fans are belt-driven by a 1 hp 1,725 rpm electric motor.

The 3-ft. high table measures 4 by 5 ft. and has drop-in grates made from 3/16-in. thick, 1 1/2-in. wide flat stock. A hopper under the table funnels sparks and slag down into a removable catch pan. A pair of 8-in. dia. holes were cut halfway up on opposite sides of the hopper. Elbows and some short lengths of stove pipe connect the holes to the fans.

An extension cord is attached to a switch that he mounted on the table. Whenever Noth wants to use his plasma cutter, he pushes the table next to an overhead garage door and raises the door a foot or two so he can blow the fan exhaust outside.

"I was surprised at how well it works, especially because I had never seen a downdraft system like this before," says Noth. "It works much better than a hood system and is also



Portable downdraft cutting table is equipped with its own fan exhaust. Smoke is pulled down through table, then piped to fans on one side of table.

much cleaner and healthier. The fans are two 1/3 hp 1,000 cfm single-inlet radial blowers that I found at a local repair shop. Since the fans are symmetrical, I had to reconstruct one fan wheel so that I could run both fans back-to-back on a single shaft with a pulley in between them."

Noth estimates his total cost to build the table at about \$500.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Brad Noth, 9018 Enterprise Road, Tomah, Wis. 54660 (ph 608 372-3191).

Log Splitter Breaks Beads

"I use my vertical log splitter to break the beads on car and implement wheels. It works slicker than a whistle," says Dick Carey, Shell Rock, Iowa.

Carey bought the splitter from a neighbor who had built it. It uses a pto-operated pump to drive a 10-ton hydraulic cylinder with a V-shaped wedge that Carey welded onto it. The cylinder mounts on top of a rectangular steel frame. A hand-operated control on back of the splitter is used to raise and lower it.

To break the bead, Carey places the tire on top of a 1-ft. long wooden block inside the frame opening.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dick Carey, 33636 290th St., Shell Rock, Iowa 50670 (ph 319 987-2610).

To break tire bead, Carey lowers cylinder until he can slip lip of wedge under wheel rim. Cylinder ram rotates freely, allowing him to reposition wedge as needed.



Custom Gaskets For Any Purpose

If you need a gasket for an older engine or machine, call Lubbock Gasket & Supply, Lubbock, Texas.

They stock head gaskets for many older engines and maintain a supply of other higher demand gaskets for older farm, construction and oil field equipment.

And if they don't have the specific gasket you need, they'll make it for you. Eddie Smith, general manager, says if you have the original gasket, that's their best pattern to use for making a new one. Without the original, you'll need to supply them with a tracing or accurate drawing of the gasket, complete with dimensions. You'll need to measure hole sizes, distance between holes, metal thickness, etc. And you'll need to tell them what material and thickness to use.

Lubbock Gasket makes gaskets from cork, graphited asbestos, or from either soft annealed copper or solid copper.

"If you don't know what material you need, send us a piece of the old gasket and we'll try to match it," Smith says.

"We do a lot of work with engine rebuilders who re-bore cylinders and need head gaskets that are no longer stock," he says. "We also work with tractor pullers who modify their engines. We keep a file on these, so if someone needs a replacement for one of our custom gaskets, we can make it up quickly. Or if they bought a pulling tractor or modified engine from someone we've dealt with, they can call us with just the information on where they got the engine and



Lubbock Gasket stocks head gaskets for many older engines and maintains a supply of other higher demand gaskets for older farm equipment.



Company makes gaskets from cork, graphited asbestos, or from either soft annealed copper or solid copper.

we can make them a new one."

In addition to custom flat gaskets, Lubbock Gasket also keeps bulk O-ring material in stock and can make O-rings to your specifications.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lubbock Gasket & Supply, 402 19th Street, Lubbock, Texas 79401 (ph 800 527-2064; fax 806 763-0965; email: lgasket@swbell.net; website: www.lubbockgasket.com).

Axles pin on in place of a pair of anti-scalping wheels on back of deck.



Space-Saving Mower Deck Storage

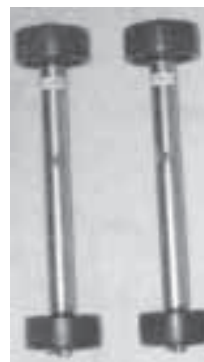
"I built it because my Kubota mower deck was taking up too much floor space in my garage," says Larry Cohenno, Willet, N.Y., who came up with a pair of small wheels and axles that allow him to store his 60-in. deck vertically instead of horizontally.

"Every year I remove the deck for the winter so that I can install a snow blade on the tractor. This idea saves space and also makes the deck easier to service," says Cohenno.

The patent pending axles are 13 in. long and fitted with 3-in. high wheels. They mount in place of a pair of anti-scalping wheels on back of the deck. Cohenno simply pins the axles on in place of the scalping wheels.

The axles are made from 1-in. dia. steel. "The kit is designed specifically for Kubota mid-mount mower decks, but I think the same idea would work with other brand name decks using four anti-scalp wheels with 1-in. dia. shafts. The wheels are rated at 250 lbs. apiece so I don't think they'd have any problem supporting a 300-lb. deck," notes Cohenno.

Cohenno sells the wheels and axles on Ebay.com and Tractorbynet.com for \$69.95



This pair of small wheels and axles allows Cohenno to store his mower deck vertically instead of horizontally.

including S&H in the 48 contiguous states. He also wholesales them to dealers for \$62 who sell them at a retail price of \$99.95.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Larry Cohenno Sr., 710 State Route 26, Willet, N.Y. 13863 (ph 607 863-4208; email: moweraxle@yahoo.com).