

If They Don't Have It, They'll Make It

Budget Attachments & Parts has about every kind of attachment you could need for use with skid steers, forklifts, telehandlers and loaders. Products include booms, buckets, grapples and more. If they don't have just what you need, their supplier will make it for you.

"We have between 15 and 20 different types of attachments, each with multiple variations, but we also do a lot of custom stuff," says Garry Helmick, Budget Attachments & Parts. "We are the dealer for Arrow Material Handling. If someone has an idea for a new variation or attachment, Arrow will design and fabricate it. The entire process takes from 5 to 10 business days."

Helmick points to one of his company's most popular items, the Auger Stump Planer. At \$935.99, it is an inexpensive alternative for stump removal. Available in 10 and 14-

in. diameters, it drills into stumps, leaving behind wood shavings. Just reposition and overlap the holes, and in short order, even the biggest stump is gone.

"The Auger Stump Planer originated as a request from a customer," says Helmick. "Each attachment section on our website has a form where custom dimensions for a variation on the attachment can be filled in. Then Arrow engineers create the design based on the request and build it."

Pricing of a custom design and build is based on the cost of steel and the time to design and fabricate the item. Helmick explains that costs are usually comparable to similar items in the product line.

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Jadin and Brock Seiler replaced the slow-working electric pump on their gooseneck dump trailer with the power unit off a log splitter.

Gooseneck Dump Trailer Powered By Log Splitter

"Our gooseneck dump trailer had an electric pump that was extremely slow and would deplete the battery in one cycle of the dump trailer. We had to find a better way to power it," says Jadin Seiler, Auburn, Ind.

He and his brother, Brock, got the idea of mounting the power unit from their wood splitter on the front of the trailer. With some help from their father, they modified the added quick-connects on the hydraulic lines and mounted a ball on the front of the gooseneck for the splitter power unit to hook up to. The splitter rests on the steel frame and mesh floor at the front of the gooseneck.

"The splitter we used is designed to be used in both the horizontal and vertical position

so once we added hydraulic disconnects, all we need to do is to remove the rotation pin and disconnect the couplings to remove the splitter cylinder and frame from the hydraulic power unit. We now can mount the splitter cylinder and frame on our skid loader plate so we can also split wood with that. It's still easy to put back on the hydraulic power unit, however. And we can lift the splitter power unit off the gooseneck with a skid steer to go split wood with it."

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Budget Attachments & Parts specializes in supplying attachments for skid steers, forklifts, telehandlers and loaders. Examples include this Auger Stump Planer (above) and a big grapple.



Federal Military Parts makes premium parts and components for military Humvees, offering about 600 different items in all.

Company Upgrades Low-Cost Military Humvees

"Surplus military Humvees are readily available at www.govplanet.com online auctions and sell for around \$12,000," says Steven OBrien at Federal Military Parts (FMP). "They don't have the luxuries of a commercial Hummer, but you can't beat them for brute force."

"GovPlanet has the worldwide contract to auction off military equipment being sold to the general public. Some of it is dirt cheap and could have agricultural applications."

FMP manufactures premium parts and components for military Humvees from electronics to hitches, bumpers, doors and windows.

"All the products we sell are designed and manufactured in the United States," says OBrien, who founded FMP after working for GovPlanet. "We don't handle the automotive parts like engines and transmissions. We do interior and exterior accessories, about 600 different items in all. We were the first to manufacture hitches for the Humvee and have sold more than 2,000 of them."

FMP sells a 2-in. pinball receiver hitch with dual LED Blazer backup lights and brackets for \$199.95. Metal doors, window units, roofs and cab rear panels (Iron Curtains) are all manufactured new. OBrien notes that most military Humvees come with those parts made from canvas. Once converted to metal, owners can easily add air conditioning and

auxiliary heat.

"We reverse engineered OEM parts to design ours," he says. "We are the last U.S. manufacturer making the OEM-style doors."

A complete hard cab kit with 2 doors equipped with double strength hinges, stainless steel hardware, plus a hard top roof and a rear Iron Curtain for an M998 Humvee is priced at \$4,845. The hardtop can be riveted, bolted or TIG welded to existing pillars. A similar package is available for a 4-door model.

Many parts come in a variety of styles for a custom approach to upgrading a Humvee. Rear Iron Curtains, for instance, are available in basic, deluxe and premium styles. Basic doesn't include a window or frame for DIY mounting. The premium Iron Curtain has a frame that is a match to the door design with the glass in a vertical position.

OBrien notes that many of the parts the company carries are equally adaptable to older tractors, harvesters and more. This is especially true of interior cab lights, cigarette lighter units with cell phone chargers, and other electric components.

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