



Restored instrument cluster from 1962 Case tractor.

Service Repairs Or Replaces Any Gauge

Bob's Speedometer Service, founded by Bob Woosley, has been repairing and restoring gauges and instruments in its Howell, Mich., shop since 1929. It's remained a family business, as Bob passed the company down to his son Bruce, and today it's run by grandson Eric and great-grandson James.

Bob's Speedometers will restore and repair instruments from essentially any vehicle make and model. This includes speedometers, tachometers, clocks, oil, fuel, amp, volt, pressure, and more. While it handles many Fords, Chryslers, and General Motors vehicles, boats, buses, RVs, firetrucks, tractors, motorcycles, and military vehicles can also be worked on. Customers are located all over the world.

A critical factor in creating an authentic restoration is ensuring that any original graphics are faithfully reproduced. Bob's Speedometer has an extensive library of

thousands of silkscreens. This makes it possible to match the original look for almost any restoration, no matter the vintage. They're used to redo the image on the front of the speedometer and can be used on original dials or custom projects.

Pricing will vary significantly by model, so the company offers free estimates. They encourage you to ship your gauges to them. Upon arrival, they will inspect the gauge before calling back with a quote. If you aren't able to come to an agreement, Bob's will ship the gauge back to you at their expense (only offered in the contiguous U.S.).

Bob's offers a 100 percent satisfaction guarantee on all custom work.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bob's Speedometer, 10123 Bergin Rd., Howell, Mich. 48843 (ph 810-632-0400; www.bobsspeedometer.com).

Battery-Powered Welder For Remote Repairs

A new cordless battery-powered welder from ESAB may be the ultimate tool for remote repair jobs. Powered by DeWalt FlexVolt batteries, the Renegade Volt ES 200i is a stick and live TIG welder. It's equipped with a Tweco electrode holder and a Tweco ground clamp.

It can operate in battery, 120V or 230V AC power, or AMP+ hybrid mode. In the latter mode, the battery supplements the AC mains power to avoid nuisance trips on smaller breaker sizes, such as 10 and 16 amp, or to provide more output when welding on 120V power.

When operating on AC mains (230V), the ES 200i has a 200A output versus 140A output on straight battery power. In AMP+ hybrid mode, it has 180A output. On battery mode, the cordless welder operates on 6, 9, and 12 Ah DeWalt FlexVolt batteries.

The 200i comes with a 230V plug and a 115V adapter plug for use with household outlets. Four 12 Ah DeWalt batteries are enough, according to ESAB, to burn up to 33 (E6013) electrodes on a single charge. The 4-port fast charger included with the ES 200i brings the batteries' charge from zero to full in 2 hours.

Special features when TIG welding include hot start, arc force, memory storage, and cellulosic mode (6010) to optimize performance.

FARM SHOW made multiple attempts to reach ESAB for comments and pricing. Receiving no response, FARM SHOW reached out to a random dealer listed on the



Four 12 Ah batteries can burn up to 33 (E6013) electrodes on a single charge.

company website.

The dealer reported a price of \$3,219.23 for the ES 200i, which is slated to be available in December. When the difficulty of reaching the company was mentioned, the dealer reported similar problems.

"They've gone through multiple mergers, and customer service has suffered," he said. "It's hard to get the company to respond, and parts are equally difficult to get. As a result, we've stopped actively carrying their products."

Buyer beware!

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, ESAB Corporation, 909 Rose Ave., North Bethesda, Md. 20852 (ph 301-323-9099; ESABCorpInfo@esab.com; www.esab.com).

Custom Workbenches Have Everything, Including Kitchen Sink

Melius Manufacturing takes customized workbenches to a new level. In addition to telescoping table extensions and built-in storage under, behind and above, the company has built workbenches with sinks and refrigerators.

While variations abound, a simple roll-around workbench without drawers will start at around \$800. At the other end of the spectrum, a 16-ft. workbench with overhead cabinets, secondary shelves, and LED lights will start at \$12,000.

Standard features include 1/2-in. steel tabletops set at a 38 in. height with 4 by 4-in. 11-gauge steel legs. Table joints have 1 1/2-in. sq. 11-gauge steel reinforcements. A 4-in. backsplash runs full length.

"We start with a basic welding table and then add options," says Dana Melius, Melius Manufacturing. "We've done at least 70 variations over time."

Options include the company's unique table extension. Mounted to one or both ends, it slides out to provide a table-level rest for longer materials. A chop saw holder clamps on level with tabletops. Bending pegs for light bending slip into holes in the tabletop and through a second plate mounted beneath it.

More standard options include LED lighting, drawers and shelving, cabinets, and power strips. Vises can be mounted in multiple orientations, while doors can swing or slide. Space can be set aside for seating, as well as for a sink or refrigerator.

Melius workbenches are in use from New Jersey to Utah and Alabama to Ontario. However, the company is not limited to workbenches. They do custom griddles and outdoor stove tops on run-around cabinets, also with a wide variety of customizations. A recent Facebook post described a work truck project.

"We just wrapped this (work truck) project



"We start with a basic welding table and then add options," says Dana Melius, Melius Manufacturing. "We've done at least 70 variations over time."

up for a local company that sets headstones," said the post.

The project included a custom toolbox with a 70-gal. water tank on top, four 500-lb. rated drawers, and E-track tie-downs on the back. A short ladder on the side provides easy access to the flatbed, while a rack on the back carries two wheelbarrows, and a rack on the front carries a heavy-duty, 2-wheel cart. A second toolbox mounted underneath the flatbed was mounted underneath for mixing concrete.

"We build to order," says Melius. "If we haven't done it before, we'll try. We don't just make cookie-cutter workbenches."

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He Built A Truck Hoist For Replacing Engines

Shang Stanley of Bedford, Va., built a truck-mounted hoist to remove a blown truck engine and install a rebuilt one. With 18 years at a farm equipment dealership, he has seen many similar homemade tools. "The goal of the design was to be able to use it from any angle to lift any load into or out of a truck bed," says Stanley. "It was also to ensure the truck wouldn't require any modifications."

The design can be used on any vehicle with a 2-in. Reese hitch receiver. An extension bar allows it to be offset to the left or right of the truck bed. "I designed it that way so that the hoist is now capable of working as a tow bar to connect two vehicles, assuming they each have a 2-in. Reese hitch receiver," he explains. The crane and trailer jack with dolly wheel are rated at 1/2 ton or 1,000 lbs. While building the hoist itself only took 10 hrs., Stanley took about 2 weeks to tweak the design to his preferences. "It was a project that took thinking as it was being built," he says.

Stanley used the hoist to remove a blown engine from one truck and replace it with a running one. As he explains, "With the rebuilt engine, I was able to lift it and back up to the broken-down vehicle and line up with the mobility of the other truck. I also tested the extension bar as a tow bar to move the broken-down truck."



Engine hoist fits a 2-in. Reese hitch receiver.

After using the hoist, Stanley sold it to another user and recouped his expenses. "Had I installed a manufactured crane, it would have required me to damage the truck permanently. This method allowed it to be used on any vehicle." And despite selling the original, Stanley is confident he can replicate the design if necessary. "Now that I have built this and took the time for the design, I would stick to it."