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Easy Ways to Extend Pump Life

STUFFING BOX

Hot chemicals, grit and age eventually will wear down the best of seals. But a few simple and inexpensive steps will significantly lengthen seal life and reduce costs.

- 1. <u>Monitor discharge pressure!</u> Critical: Liquid must be expelled at the rate it is pumped, or the resistant back pressure will cause stuffing-box failure. Discharge lines must be large enough to handle pumped volume. Never pump with plugged or closed discharge.
- 2. <u>Lube the drive rod.</u> An auto-oiler attached to the seal plate significantly reduces friction and wear.
- 3. <u>Keep the rod clean.</u> Watch for dirt or grit, which can cause scratching or marring.
- 4. <u>Divert drips.</u> A splash plate mounted on the stuffing box will direct any leakage into drain indicator gutter.
- 5. <u>Drain drips.</u> Attach a ¼-inch pvc hose-barb fitting in the stuffing-box drain, with ¼-inch tube to a container, to divert any liquid from liner.
- 6. <u>Thoroughly clean cartridges.</u> If/when replacing seals, soak cartridges first in paint thinner and then in a degreaser for at least a half-hour each, followed by thorough water rinsing and cleaning with fine wire brush.
- 7. <u>Throw out warn cartridges.</u> Seals will fit too loosely and not seat properly in a worn cartridge.

DRIVE MOTOR

- 1. <u>Use a combination filter-regulator/air-oiler</u>. a.) The filter-regulator employs a replaceable filter to clean incoming pneumatic air of tiny particulates to keep dirt out of control logic and ports. b.) The air-oiler conditions incoming air with light lubrication for the motor and seals, an excellent investment return.
- <u>Don't speed.</u> Blackhawk pneumatics run longest and most efficiently at 20 strokes per minute, with a top end of no more than 40 spm. Only use speed-muffler controls to adjust speed, <u>not</u> filter regulator.

Maximize your investment in Blackhawk Pumps



Auto-oiler significantly reduces rod friction.



Splash plate above seal block diverts drips.



Regulator-oiler combo cleans, conditions incoming air. Use speed-muffler controls to adjust speed, not regulator.

Fact Sheet #15

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