



# Five Questions About Mobile Shear Maintenance

We were recently asked to share some thoughts on mobile shear maintenance for an industry publication's upcoming issue. And while we could fill pages with information on shear maintenance, we boiled it down to five questions that serve as a good overview for efficient shear operation and long life and are good reminders for everyone.



## **Why is mobile shear maintenance so critical to performance and longevity?**

Owning a mobile shear is a hands-on operation that should be managed with a proactive routine. Good operating and maintenance practices go hand-in-hand and will help keep the shear operating as intended. Balancing production figures, maximizing run time, and controlling operating costs are all important factors in keeping the shear profitable. Skipping daily tasks may save you up-front, but will often cost you later, when figuring your long-term costs.

## **How do you recommend getting into a good maintenance routine, understanding the daily tasks as well as the long-term maintenance items?**

Simple, read the manual! Mobile shears are an integral part of many demolition and scrap operations and should be treated as such. Shear and excavator packages can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, or more, and there's an excellent chance the equipment manual will cover topics you weren't even aware existed. Whether it be related to the shear, or the carrier, almost anyone could benefit from improved familiarity of the product manuals and the information they contain.



## **What is the ideal maintenance interval for a mobile shear?**

It's easy to let the daily task intervals get extended, especially when the tool is new and operating at tip-top performance. Regardless of age, it requires daily attention, starting with four-hour grease intervals and extending into daily blade and pivot group inspections. Later, long term care items, such as hydraulic resealing or even major overhauls will come due. Approaching these items at a daily level will require some understanding of the forces at play and a desire to keep the tool running at top performance. Having personnel who are onboard with tackling these items proactively will have a significant, positive impact on staving off the unscheduled repairs and associated downtime.

## **Who is responsible for the single easiest and cheapest preventative care item that is often overlooked or doesn't get performed correctly?**

This typically falls on the operator, but in some yards, a lube technician. Proper grease intervals are ultra important because mobile shears have a wide range of motion while also creating immense force. They also utilize bushed load surfaces, rather than roller type bearings, meaning grease film strength is the sole element responsible for withstanding that pressure.



Just as important as the interval, is using the right type of grease! Our recommended grease intervals are 4 and 8 hours, and we recommend GLG-2® extreme pressure lithium grease, P/N 6302601. Using cheap lubricants or base compounds containing Moly doesn't get the job done.

## What shear maintenance practices do you often see lacking?

Watching an operator cut hardened material is always excruciating to witness due to the violent pressure spikes and toll it takes on a mobile shear, but from a maintenance perspective, it's blade neglect.

Shears use steel to cut steel. Neglecting blade maintenance makes everything work harder. It slows processing time, increases cutting stresses, and increases the likelihood of material jamming in the jaw, among other things. Blade gaps, bolt torque, and edge radius maintenance aren't the most glamorous aspects of equipment care, but in the shearing world, these are the details that matter. It can seem a bit tedious, but taking blade care head-on, day to day, will keep the shear performing far better, for far longer.



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These overview questions are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to shear maintenance, so Genesis **product manuals** are always available to view and download. Tim and Loren are also here to answer any questions, **[talseth@genesisattachments.com](mailto:talseth@genesisattachments.com)**, 218-349-5755 and **[llagesse@genesisattachments.com](mailto:llagesse@genesisattachments.com)**, 715-919-8316.