



Mr. O, The Practical Problem Solver

The proper way to connect a grease gun to a fitting

To get the most of your grease fittings and hydraulic couplers, care should be taken even before connecting the grease coupler to the grease fitting. For every connection, there are two sealing surfaces – jaws of the grease coupler and bullneck around the head of the grease fitting. Both the coupler and grease fitting should be wiped clean before lubricating.

Push the coupler onto the fitting at a slight angle and then centre the coupler on the fitting. This action easily spreads the jaws over top of the bullneck, reducing damage and scoring of the coupler and grease fitting. Most hydraulic grease couplers are designed to provide a hydraulic seal at any coupler angle up to about 15 degrees.

After lubricating, turn the coupler at a slight angle to release the jaws and bleed off any potential lubricant back-pressure within the fitting or bearing. Be careful not to develop excessive pressure or lubricant volume, which could result in damaged seals.

This issue's tip came from Mike Deckert, V.P., FLO Components Ltd. Deckert is an active member of the Faculty, Board of Directors and Advisory Committees for HDET (Heavy Duty Equipment Technician) and HDEO (Heavy Duty Equipment Operator) at Conestoga College, an instructor at the Lubrication School at Mohawk College and a Member in Good Standing of the Society of Tribologists & Lubrication Engineers. Reach him at mdeckert@flocomponents.com or visit www.flocomponents.com.

