

“Rare Parts” Out-Perform OEM Steering And Suspension

If the folks at Rare Parts can't find the steering or suspension component you need, they'll make it for you. The company carries 15,000 different part numbers in stock. The full service machine shop also makes and markets heavy-duty replacements for OEM steering components known to fail early, as well as custom parts as needed.

"If we don't have the part you need in stock, send the old one to us," says Marshall Giorgi, Rare Parts, Inc. "Often it only takes a day to make a duplicate."

In addition to older vehicles, Rare Parts specializes in hot rods and muscle cars, collector cars and motor homes. However, parts have also been designed and manufactured for tomato harvesters and more traditional farm equipment, ATVs and even missile carriers for the military. On custom-made parts, the original is duplicated down to the markings on a cover plate.

Although the company's focus is on steering and suspension, they have the ability to do injection molding as well as heat treating. OEM parts up to 2 1/2 in. can be strengthening by heat treatment.

Rare Parts maintains a full testing and inspection facility. Their parts are compared to OEM through cycle, impact and tensile testing procedures to make sure they're better than original. The company warrants parts to buyers for as long as they own the vehicle.

Two popular products the company offers includes a heavy-duty track bar for Dodge



Rare Parts, Inc., makes heavy-duty replacements for OEM steering components known to fail early.

trucks and a heavy-duty tie rod assembly for Chevy and GMC pickups and SUV's, as well as the Hummer H2. Rare Parts says its track bar offers an additional 13 degrees of stud swing over the OEM bar, and is bigger and stronger, withstanding twice the force in tensile testing.

"In the case of the tie rod assembly, we heard the same story from a number of customers. The shaft where the inner met the outer was bending and snapping," says Giorgi. "The Chevy Silverado was the vehicle that was first brought to our attention. Anytime we have people tell us about parts failure and we can see the need, we build and stock the parts."

Like the track bar, the new tie rod assembly has been designed to eliminate the weak point, with both inner and outer components enlarged and strengthened.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rare Parts, Inc., 621 Wilshire Ave., Stockton, Calif. 95203 (ph 209 323-3923 or 800 621-2005; fax 209 948-2851; rparts@rareparts.com; www.rareparts.com).

Heavy Duty Shop “Elevator”

The loft storage area in Gene Boehler's shop is much more useable now that he can get there by elevator.

The Farmersville, Ill., man operates a welding and repair service out of an old frame barn. He needed a way to take big parts and other items up to the hayloft for long term storage. His home-built elevator can lift up to 900 lbs. and rides up through an existing opening in the hayloft floor.

Boehler made the elevator using an electric winch and scrap steel. The winch is operated by a remote control attached to a 10-ft. long cord. The winch winds a cable that raises or lowers a 3 by 4-ft. platform made from metal grating.

A pair of pulleys give the elevator a 4 to 1 reduction on the cable lift, slowing it down and adding to its lifting ability. "It goes up at a nice, comfortable slow speed," says Boehler.

The elevator cage is made from spare shelving material and is hoisted by a heavy cross-shaped frame welded to four angle iron guides, which are held together by cross members. The winch and pulleys are supported by a frame built up in the loft.

"I've used it to haul everything from engines and transmissions to filing cabinets. I like it because I'm able to get a lot of stuff upstairs all by myself," says Boehler.

"I bought the winch at Harbor Freight for \$50 and paid about \$100 for the pulleys. Everything else that I used I already had."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gene Boehler, 27299 Frontage Road, Farmersville, Ill. 62533 (ph 217 227-3220).



Gene Boehler needed a way to take big parts and other items up to the loft storage area in his shop, so he built this elevator. It can lift up to 900 lbs. and rides up through an existing opening in the hayloft floor.

Specialists Provide All Things Hydraulic

If Georgetown Hydraulics doesn't have the hydraulic equipment or component you need, they can probably make it. Their specialty is hydraulic power including everything from pumps and motors to pipes, fittings, clamps, couplers, adapters and valves. They even carry hydraulic-powered fans, chop saws, table saws and even ice cream makers.

Their portable hydraulic power units are used anyplace there's a need for hydraulics and they custom build large power units to customer specifications. Put a 20 hp air compressor on a unit or an electrical generator and from 1 to 16 hydraulic pumps with outputs of 1 to 100 gallons per minute. The largest unit they have built so far was 700 hp.

Georgetown offers six different diesel engine brands to choose from on the large, customized skid units. Power can also be provided by gas engines or electric motors.

Smaller portable hydraulic units are also available. Self-contained, 12-volt systems start at 1.8 gpm and 3,000 psi. Prices range from \$380 to \$490, depending on single or double acting, manual or remote controls. Wheeled units range in price from \$800 to \$2,500. Engines vary from four to 24 hp with hydraulic output that starts at 6 gpm and 1,500 psi and goes to 12 gpm and 3,000 psi.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Georgetown Hydraulics, 343 Christiana Pike, Christiana, Penn. 17509 (ph 610 593-2753).



Skid-mounted hydraulic pump and air compressor is one of many specialty products offered by Georgetown Hydraulics.



Portable wheeled hydraulic pump can be used anywhere.



Self-contained, 12-volt systems are also available, such as this 1.8 gpm system.

Tractor Engine Stand

"It works much like larger engine stands designed to hold bigger Cummins and Cat truck engines, but costs much less," says Kenny Peters about his company's new portable engine stand that's designed to handle tractor engines.

The "Twister" has many of the same features found on larger engine stands. It comes with a standard bottle jack, a 60:1 gearbox, and a hand-operated crank. A pivot pin on back allows the engine to be raised up at an angle. The dolly can be removed by pulling back on the handle, allowing the stand to set on the floor as a stationary unit.

Three different adapter plates are available: Deere, IH, and 5.9 Cummins diesel engine. Several different colors are available.

Sells for \$1,995 plus S&H. The adapter plates sell for about \$100.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The Twister, K & S Steel Products, 4620 S. Co.



Twister engine stand has many of the same features found on larger engine stands.

Rd. 550 E., Greensburg, Ind. 47240 (ph 812 663-8567; fax 812 663-8698; kssteel@aol.com).

“Mini Pallet” For Hand Trucks

This new "mini pallet" for hand trucks makes it easy to get under heavy loads.

Made from 1/2 in. by 16-ga. tubing, the hand truck pallet measures 10 1/2 in. long by 20 1/2 in. wide by 1 in. tall. A pair of 1/2-in. sq. support tubes on the outside edges keep the load 1/2 in. off the floor, allowing you to easily slide the hand truck under the load.

"It eliminates the need to tilt the load back and then try to jam the hand truck under it," says inventor Roger Kuntz, K-Tech, Grainfield, Kansas. "It can handle any load up to 1,000 lbs. Works great with pails, boxes, batteries, etc. It can be used with any hand truck that has a 'toe' up to 3/8 in. thick, 18 in. wide, and 7 or more in. long. Another benefit is that it always keeps the load off the floor so it won't get wet."

Kuntz says he's selling the product direct



A pair of 1/2-in. sq. support tubes on outside edges of pallet keep the load 1/2 in. off the floor, allowing you to easily slide a hand truck under the load.

for now but is looking for a distributor.

Sells for \$17.95 including S&H. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, K-Tech, 5251 Co. Rd. X, Grainfield, Kansas 67737 (ph 785 673-5560).