

A drop-lid toolbox on the outside of the bus provides a convenient work station complete with air hose, water, electricity and a large lamp.

COMPLETE WITH ITS OWN POWER PLANT AND WORK BENCH FOR IN-FIELD REPAIRS

Rebuilt Bus Makes Great Mobile Shop

You've never seen anything like the mobile "tool bus" built by Scott Peacock, Alliance, Alberta, from a 30-ft. school bus. The "tool bus" is complete with its own power plant, work bench, and even a lunch table and microwave oven.

Peacock, who bought the 1972 model bus for \$1,350, totally remodeled the interior to accommodate in-field repairs, tools and supplies. On one side of the bus he installed a 10-ft. long work bench as well as stationary power tools, an air compressor, a 20-ton hydraulic press and a 110 and 220-volt AC/ DC generator. On the other side of the bus he installed a 15-gal, water tank, bolt bins, and a microwave oven. Peacock equipped the outside of the bus with a tool box that's got a drop-down lid, providing a handy work station complete with air hose, water, electricity and a large lamp to light the area. There's even a shower nozzle head mounted behind the bus next to the water tank.

Peacock, who grows wheat, says he needed a mobile shop because his fields are spread up to 15 miles apart. "We're sometimes in our larger fields for two days at a time. In the event of a machinery breakdown, the 'tool bus' really saves on trips and time. But it's handy to use even if we're in fields only a half mile from home. The bus lets us carry many more tools than a pickup and we can work inside during bad weather.

During winter months, we usually move our tools into our shop."

The bus is equipped with a Chevrolet 366 engine, 5-speed transmission and 8 1/4 by 20 radial tires. "The bus had passed a government safety inspection just before we bought it so we knew everything worked," says Peacock. He welded an extra heavy duty trailer hitch to the rear of the bus so he can tow fuel wagons or implements such as disks and field cultivators. He also made a step to climb in and out of the rear door.

Peacock removed all but the front four seats, which he repositioned so that they face each other with a table in between.

Tools inside the bus include a 1 hp air compressor, cutting torch, 12-ton hydraulic press, 5-in. bench vise, 5-speed 13 mm drill press, bench grinder, electric drills, 1/2-in. electric impact wrench, air impact wrenches, 6 and 4-in. disk grinders, and portable wet and dry shop vacuums. "We grow certified seed, so we use the vacuums to clean out our drill boxes," explains Peacock.

The bus is also equipped with a first-aid kit, grease gun, 200 liters of oil, an O-ring set, open end wrenches, socket sets, two fire extinguishers, a 220-V, 4,800-amp heater, and complete welding supplies.

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The "Spirit of Oliver" tractor is actually a modified White 185.

"NEW" TRACTOR SPORTS TRADITIONAL GREEN AND WHITE OLIVER COLORS

White Brings Back The "Spirit Of Oliver"

Visitors at several major farm shows this fall got a chance to see the prototype of a "new" old-style tractor that commemorates the proud heritage of White Farm Equipment tractors.

White's origin dates back to what many consider to be the first successful production tractor, the Hart-Parr. Other famous tractors in White's history include the Oliver, Minneapolis-Moline, and Cockshutt.

According to Tom Cowher, product manager for tractors, the company originally intended to manufacture a limited number of "Spirit of Oliver" tractors but, due to the drought, those plans are now on hold. "We still haven't ruled out the possibility of building the tractor," he told FARM SHOW

The "Spirit of Oliver" tractor is a modified White 185. It sports traditional Oliver trademarks, such as the green and white Oliver colors, while incorporating contemporary styling and features. In contrast to the White 185, the "Spirit of Oliver" has a

more streamlined front grille, recessed lights, a squared up and widened front end with stackable weights, a 12-in. longer wheelbase that improves the ride and provides additional room for side-mounted tanks, changes in the transmission and shifting, and a restyled cab interior that includes a wood dash and console. The tractor is powered by a 185 hp Cummins engine.

The company asked showgoers to fill out a survey on the commemorative edition tractor, rating its overall appearance and styling. "Thanks to the Spirit of Oliver, we had our best attendance ever," says Cowher. At the shows, the company sold a limited production 1/16 scale toy model of the tractor for \$25 and a 1/64 scale model for \$3. The toy models are available in limited quantity at some White dealerships.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, White-New Idea Farm Equipment Co., 12 West Sycamore St., Coldwater, Ohio 45828 (ph 419 678-5311).



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