

Dust Killer comes in different sizes and can handle multiple tools at one time.



“Killer” Captures Harmful Dust

Silica dust is no joke for crews cutting pavers, stone, concrete or most other hardscapes. Dust Killer Tools eliminate the problem, capturing dust as it's being made.

“When OSHA started talking about redrawing the rules on silica dust control, we started looking for solutions,” says Jeremy Martin, Dust Killer Tools. “We didn’t find anything out there that worked. There were dust collector systems, but they didn’t capture a significant amount of dust.”

After a year of experimenting with different components, Martin and his team settled on a 2,000-cfm collector system with multiple hose inlets.

The 74-in. high Dust Killer has a 2,000-cfm vacuum motor with 4, 6, and 8-in. takeoffs. Along with two dust collection bags, it's mounted on a 33-in. wide, 4-wheel trailer. The 33-in. by 66-in. trailer fits through most doors and gates. The 375-lb. system can handle a 20-in. table saw (8-in. hose), a 14-in. cutoff saw (6-in. hose) and a 4-in. grinder (4-in. hose) simultaneously. However, for maximum performance on the larger saws, Martin suggests capping the smaller hose.

“OSHA calls for only 25 cfm per inch of cutting/grinding blade diameter,” says Martin. “At 2,000 cfm, the Dust Killer easily exceeds that benchmark. In fact, we suggest the 25 cfm per inch for larger saws is insufficient.”

Martin explains that they developed the Dust Killer to avoid OSHA fines. While enforcement of OSHA regulations requiring

control is loosely enforced, the fines can run \$8,000 per person on the crew.

“We knew we couldn’t afford that,” says Martin.

However, once they started using the Dust Killer, fines became secondary. “We would never go back to working without it,” says Martin. “Our employees are happier, our clients are happier and there is less cleanup work. Even client neighbors appreciate it.”

A typical package for a Dust Killer plus hoses and attachments for multiple machines runs from \$10,000 to \$14,000, says Martin. “We can price them by component as well as in various packages, depending on what tools are being run,” he says.

The company also offers the Dust Killer II. It's more compact with a 1,300-cfm unit and a single collection bag. It offers only 6 and 8-in. inlets, and the trailer is only 42-in. long versus 62 in. It weighs about 260 lbs. and can handle a 20-in. table saw and a 4 to 7-in. grinder or two 14-in. cutoff saws simultaneously.

Dust Killer Tools has also developed several attachments. The Dust Shark is designed for use when cutting wall block or paver border pieces. The Dust Xtractor is for cutting pavers in place or for cutting control joints in concrete.

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Springs Give Tailgate Lift Assist

Lifting the tailgate on his trailer has been much easier since Bern Smith added a couple of springs. Instead of purchasing expensive encased springs that cost \$150 to \$250, Smith bought two 1 1/2 by 13-in. extension springs (\$30), two 20-in. lengths of porch swing chain (\$5), two quick links (\$5) and two U-bolts (\$5) to create his tailgate assist.

“The springs are attached to the porch swing chain and the quick links allow you to adjust the tension on the springs by changing where it is hooked on the chain and remove the tailgate without undoing the U-bolts,” he says.

U-bolts hold the quick link (and chain) on the trailer frame and the springs on the tailgate.

“I have no more strained arms or shoulders,” Smith says. “The springs take the weight out of lifting the tailgate.”

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Smith used standard springs and hardware to ease the load of his trailer tailgate.

FARM SHOW®

Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

Have you come up with any unusual money-saving repair methods for fixing farm equipment? What maintenance shortcuts have you found? Have you had any equipment recalled by the factory? Name a particularly tough mechanical problem you've had with a piece of equipment and how you solved it.

These are a few of the questions we asked randomly selected FARM SHOW readers. If you have a repair tip, maintenance shortcut, or other mechanical experience you'd like to share, send details to: FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 or email us at: editor@farmshow.com.

Mark Newhall, Managing Editor



Doug Johnson, Aberdeen, Wash.: “No matter what kind of trailer you're using, if the license plate is mounted down low under the taillights, you're eventually going to break the plastic bracket and/or the frame holding it in place. After 60 years of having this problem, I finally came up with a simple solution using a standard door hinge welded to a piece of flat steel bar. Use a couple of bolts to attach the hinge to the trailer frame and drill two holes in the bar to match the license plate. Now when the license hits the ground or an object, it will just swing back out of the way and then return to hanging straight when clear.”

“The new battery I put in my wife's older car has no handle and is a real bear to lift out of the engine compartment. So, I cut a piece of 4-in. cargo strap and put it under the battery, so the ends stick out and give you something to hang on to. The cargo strap is non-conductive, so it doesn't cause a problem.”



“Here's an easy way to make a portable workbench. I attach wood planks to either side of the bucket on my loader tractor and then lay a piece of plywood across them, held in place by couple of C-clamps. Comes in handy for all kinds of jobs.”

Scott Geyer, Lakeville, Minn.:

“A simple gate wheel helper we saw at a show features a rubber wheel mounted to a piece of bent metal tubing that is mounted to the open end of a gate as a helper to keep things moving smoothly.”



John Rochester, Charlotte, N.C.: “When doing engine repairs, I use cable ties to hold hoses and wires out of the way.”



Ken Goeldner, Delmar, N.Y.: “When I had a snowplow installed on my truck several years ago, I was advised to liberally apply dielectric grease to the electrical connections between the plow and vehicle. Since then, I have also followed that advice on my trailer connections between trailers and vehicles. Works great - no more corroded connections.”

Jackie D. Leeper, Carterville, Ind.: “When you lose caps for a gas can spout, get rubber chair leg caps to replace them. They come in different sizes and work well.”