



Almagard® Vari-Purpose Lubricant (3752)

Brad Coley – Granville County, N.C.

Vermeer® Rebel® 5410 Round Hay Baler (2009)

- Protected drive coupler from wear (it looked new when it should have been replacement time)
- Extended coupler's lifetime by at least five times
- Saved \$1,925, plus labor costs – to date – by eliminating need for five coupler change-outs

Customer Profile

Brad Coley farms 200 acres of corn and 100 acres of soybeans in Granville County, N.C. He also bales hay.

Application

Drive chain coupler between gearbox and drive chain on a 2009 Vermeer Rebel 5410 round hay baler. The baler is pulled by a Massey Ferguson 3660, 140-hp, two-wheel-drive tractor.

Challenge

Hay baling is a very dirty, dusty operation. Most farmers want a lubricant that will last through long hours in the field during operation. Brad wanted an exceptionally good grease to lubricate all the lube points on his Vermeer Baler. The grease needed to stay in during use and not pound out, to seal out dirt and contamination, and – above all – provide long-lasting wear protection.

LE Solution

In addition to running his own farming operation, Brad is also the fleet maintenance manager at nearby Wake Electric Membership Coop. In his more than 15 years working there, the shop has always used LE's lubricants with excellent results. Brad said that the LE products had performed exceptionally well. The LE products used at the Coop included grease in truck chassis and heavy equipment, power fluid in transmissions, hydraulic oil in the boom trucks and gear oil in gearboxes.



On his farm, Brad had used LE's power fluid in his combine, and LE's hydraulic oil and gear oil in gearboxes in other farm equipment. So, he figured he would try LE's Almagard Vari-Purpose Lubricant (3752) – a NLGI 2 grease – in his Vermeer baler and some of his other equipment.

Almagard 3752 is a great choice for this application, as it is a high-performance industrial lubricant that stays in during operation, runs cool, and is long-lasting. Designed for severe service applications, Almagard 3752 is extremely tacky, will not wash off, pound out, or melt and run. It is the ideal choice for heavy equipment where high impact occurs. It is formulated with two of LE's proprietary additives. Almasol® is a solid film additive that minimizes metal-to-metal contact, thereby reducing friction, heat and wear. Quinplex® adds impact resistance, water resistance and tackiness, and enhances mechanical stability.



Results

Brad started using Almagard 3752 in his Vermeer round baler right from the start when the equipment was new. A couple of years after he bought the baler, he took the baler into the dealer for a repair on a recall. It was almost time to service the coupler between the gearbox and drive chain, so he decided to go ahead and have that done at the same time. The baler had run more than 2,700 bales by that time.

The dealer called him back and wanted to know what the “red” grease was that he was using in the coupler. The dealer told him under normal operation the coupler needs to be replaced after 3,000 bales, but the coupler on his unit looked almost new. Brad told him that he had been using LE’s Almagard 3752 grease in all of the baler’s lube points since it was new.

To date, the baler has been used to make more than 15,000 bales. Almagard 3752 grease has been used the entire time, and the original coupler is still on the unit. The coupler would have normally been replaced every 3,000 hours, so five coupler change-outs have been avoided to date. Coupler shaft replacement costs about \$385, plus labor. Therefore, Brad has saved a minimum of \$1,925, plus labor cost on five replacements.

In addition, there have been no bearings replaced on this baler since it was new.

“We use 3752 on all of our hay equipment (including mower/conditioner and hay tedder) and have had no lubed part issues on any of the equipment,” Brad said.

Other LE Product Used

- Duolec® Vari-Purpose Gear Lubricant (1605)
- Monolec® Power Fluid (7500)



Thank you to Brad Coley, and Jeffrey Boyles, LE lubrication consultant (pictured), for providing the information used in this report.

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Coupler on the Baler



2008 Massey Ferguson 1359 Mower Conditioner



2013 Pequea TT4400 Hay Tedder

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