

TECHNICAL BULLETIN ON MILITEC-1 FOR LUBRICATING CHAIN PINS AND BUSHINGS

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This report comes from a furniture manufacturer that has been using MILITEC-1 on the large chains of a woodworking machine. For a number of years, the chains have had to be rebuilt twice a year. There are two 40-ft. chains, one on each side of the machine. The links are 2 inches wide with about a 3-inch pitch. The wear occurs on the bushings and the pins. A rebuild is needed when the bushings and pins can no longer be lubricated due to notches that are created from wear and these block lubricant access. Without lubrication, the chain does not easily straighten out as it circulates. The need for the rebuild becomes quite obvious by the inflexibility of the chain and the plastic blocks around the chain that start to stand up in an inverted V pattern.

The rebuild consists of removing the hinge pins and bushings and installing new ones. The hinge pins are 1/2-inch in diameter and 2 inches long. Once the new bushings are in place, the installer presses the pin through the bushing. An Arbor press is used to force the pin into position. However, the pin does not fit easily into the bushing and the Arbor press fails to finish the job. To fully seat the pin, the installer has had to use a hammer and a block to hammer the pin into position. This is very time-consuming as there are several hundred pins to hammer in. Six months ago, the Maintenance Supervisor had come across MILITEC-1 at a trade show and decided to see if it would help the rebuild which was scheduled then. They dipped the pins and bushings into the MILITEC-1 and found that the pins could then easily be fully seated in the bushing using only the Arbor press. This saved about half the time of the rebuild.

It is now six months later and normally another rebuild would be required. However, with MILITEC-1 lubricating the hinge pins, the notch wear has not occurred. The pins and bushings look and behave as if they were new.