

# ANDROMAT TODAY

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## Bearing Lubrication

*"Minimizing downtime through lubrication"*

### Scott Wilson

Henschel Andromat Inc

Over the last few weeks, your operators have been reporting a squealing or creaking sound coming from the work arm each time they extend the shoulder. You get that cold chill down your spine for you already expect a bearing is failing. You immediately start wondering, when was the last time those bearings saw fresh grease and why don't we have a better plan for lubrication.

This scenario is played out again and again across most all industries. We get behind and think it will go one more week. We usually can't see the resulting damage, but are made clear when a bearing fails:

**CRREEEEAAK!!!**

The sound of the death nail being driven. In this issue, we will explore the failure methods of poorly lubricated bearings and ways to prevent these failures from occurring.

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## Henschel Andromat Inc

Come To The "A" Team

160 Commercial Court

Alabaster, AL 35007

P- 205.664.2484

F- 205.664.2481

[www.andromatusa.com](http://www.andromatusa.com)



See page 2 for too good to believe deals on OEM parts.

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## Why lubricate????

In a situation where we have two materials moving against each other, we need to have something between the two mating surfaces to reduce friction loss of the materials. Enter, lubricants. This can be as simple as animal fat on the axle of your buckboard to gasified molybdenum in an aerospace bearing. Reducing friction is the name of the game and oils and greases do this for us.

## Types of lubrication related failures in bearings

Bearing failure will progress into four distinct levels:

1. Discoloration



- Metal to metal contact resulting high surface temperatures
- High temperatures discolor races and rollers
- In mild cases the lubricant stains the bearing, in severe cases the metal itself is overheated and changes colors.

2. Scoring and peeling



- Insufficient or total lack of lubricant.
- Using wrong lubricant or lubricant type.

3. Excessive roller end heat



- Inadequate lube film resulting in localized overheating.

4. Total bearing lockup



- High localized heat produces metal flow, altering assembly shape which causes complete component failure.

## Put a plan in place

A comprehensive lubrication plan will go a long way in preventing the premature failure of bearings. This in turn will improve machine uptime and reliability.

A good lubrication plan will look at what type(s) of lubricant is to be used, how often the part is to be lubricated, and how much lubricant is to be applied. For our manipulators, your manuals provide a guide for bearing lubrication as well as the specification for the lubricant to be used.

## Conclusion

While they can't make the bearings last forever, we can put a plan in place to ensure they have the longest possible life. A simple pump of the grease gun could prevent hours of down time and hard labor while saving significant dollars in maintenance costs.

Do you have a lubrication plan?

## \*\*\*HOT SUMMER DEALS\*\*\*

We have in stock in Alabaster, AL, an OEM roof mount A/C for sale with huge savings.

This is a NEW complete A/C unit (A000253356) with overhead trim which usually sales for \$20,046.00.

We are offering this unit for \$16,046.00. **That's a 20% savings!!!**

But act fast; there is only one unit available at this price. First come, first serve. Don't delay. Upgrade your old, tired unit for a fraction of the cost.

