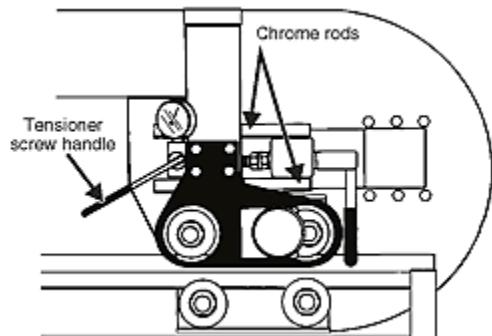




Refilling Your Sawmill's BLADE TENSIONER

A properly tensioned blade increases not only your blade's flexlife, but also your production. One of the most frequently-asked customer service questions regards the proper technique for refilling this small but integral part of your Wood-Mizer sawmill.

The blade tensioner, located on the rear left of the blade, has three components that require maintenance. First, lubricate the chrome rods of the tensioner system (see illustration below) with a heavy-duty teflon spray lubricant, such as Gunk ® L508 (part no. 004872), every 50 hours of operation.



Secondly, the tensioner screw handle requires a NLGI No. 2-grade lithium grease as needed.

The last component, the hydraulic blade tensioner, requires additional Automatic Transmission Fluid (ATF), such as Dexron ® III ATF, as needed. Add enough fluid to completely fill the tensioner block each time maintenance is required.

Filling the Hydraulic Blade Tensioner

1. Begin by removing the tensioner handle and ball, the sawmill blade housing covers, and the blade.
2. Push the idle-side shaft housing all the way in to collapse the rear tensioner piston and fully extend the front piston. The front piston should reach the threaded area of the piston guide. (Note: If the hydraulic fluid level is extremely low, collapsing the rear piston may not fully extend the front piston. If it does not, finish the fill procedure in its entirety and repeat. The first pass should add enough fluid to allow the front piston to fully extend. The second pass should add enough fluid to completely fill the block.)
3. Locate the fill plug behind the tension gauge. Clean any dirt and debris from the plug area. Use a 7/16" wrench to remove the plug, making sure to keep the plug o-ring with the plug.
4. Manually extend the rear piston (the front piston should remain extended). Use pliers if necessary, but only grip 1/4" of the rear piston. Gripping beyond this point could result in damage.
5. Use a small funnel, cup, or oil squirt can to completely fill the block with hydraulic fluid. When full, place the fill plug in the fill plug hole and thread 1-2 turns. Manually push the rear piston all the way in to allow excess oil and air to bleed from system through the plug. Plug should be tightened completely.
6. Reinstall the blade and blade housing covers. Reinstall the tensioner ball and handle.

