

UP Time
Fall 2022



Changes at Alpine Shredders Limited

Peter Viveen

Just like every organization, Alpine Shredders has evolved over time. Here are a few subtle changes we would like to share with you:

PEOPLE: Firstly, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome Ryan Blasig to the Alpine Team. Ryan will be taking on the role of both Engineering and Service support. Ryan comes to us with a Mechanical Engineering, Design, and Analysis Diploma as well as a solid background in structural design, jig design, and manufacturing processes.

PRODUCTION: Starting January 2023 our product developments revealed at the 2022 iSIGMA show will be put into full production. This release has been a slow methodical process, not because we are lazy, but because we have the luxury of not having to race to market with new developments. This fortunate position enables us to prototype, and extensively field test concepts before for they are put into full production.

DESIGN: In addition to the features revealed at iSIGMA there is one more small design change that will show up on our 2023 builds. All the cab dash switches are being relocated to a common box. This allows us to plug and play the dash switches to the Alpine chassis harness. The benefits of this include: no dash disassembly required to access the switch contacts / easier troubleshooting / less time to build the truck on our shop floor. Just another small improvement that benefits us and our customers.

SYSTEMS: Finally, 2022 and 2023 combined will be the largest jump in our fleet size we have ever experienced. To prepare for this growth we have been working hard behind the scenes developing a customized service database as well as training our staff to ensure we provide the level of service our customers have come to expect. **For quicker service support send us your truck# & last 6 digits of VIN# and we will add it to our database.**

Shred till ya puke!

Pete Viveen—Technical Director



The cold weather will soon be upon us and now is a good time to check over your shredding equipment before the weather changes. Some of these inspections are easy to forget about or easily overlooked.

Compactor gear box: Inspecting the oil level rarely gets done due to where it is located. If the output seal is damaged the oil leaking out of it gets absorbed by the shredded paper. The most certain way to inspect the oil level is remove the site glass and see if oil comes out. If not, now is the time to top it up.

Unload Belt: On our older trucks we have an unload belt. Inspect the belt for damage or tears. Lift up those side covers and clean out the shredded paper. If it accumulates in these areas it will absorb moisture and corrode components and the belt frame. It is also a good time to grease the bearings and inspect the frame and adjustment bolts. Remove the cover for the drive chain, clean out the paper, lube the chain, and inspect the chain tension. These things are often overlooked.

Arctic Fox Heater: This is a good time to make sure your hydraulic oil heater is working properly. Allow the engine to come up to running temperature, turn on the Arctic Fox and put your hand on the hoses that go into the hydraulic reservoir, both hoses should be warm/hot to touch. This is the best way to ensure that it is working properly. Inspect the hoses for wear and make sure all the hose clamps are tight.

Hydraulic Tank: Inspect the hoses attached to the tank that they are secure and fittings are tight. Check the suction hose clamps at the tank and pump ends to make sure they are tight. Now is a good time to inspect the exterior of the tank for corrosion. In areas where salt is used on the roads the tank will corrode. Any kind of rust proofing on the exterior of the tank will extend its service life. Touch up any chipped or peeling paint. Check the hydraulic oil level on the site glass. The filters are mounted close to the tank, inspect the filters and housing for leaks. It may be time to replace the filters especially if the outside of the filter is rusty.

Hydraulic Cooler: Even with the colder weather the hydraulic cooler should be inspected, make sure both fans are operational and the cooler core is clean and free of damage. The fans will still come on in the winter if you are doing large purges. Inspect the hydraulic hoses going up to the cooler for wear and make sure they are still secured into the mounting brackets.

Cart Lift: The cart lift is the hardest working piece of equipment on your truck. Inspect the chain tension as per the manual. Lubricate the chain and slides. Inspect all the limit switches, make the sure the arms work freely and there are no damaged components. Lube the cart door slides and check the spring bolts to make sure they are working properly.

Shredder Body: The body for the shredding equipment needs to be inspected regularly. Check the operation of all the doors and the hardware is secure and not damaged. Make sure all the body caulking is in good condition, if not, now is a good time to reseal the body to prevent water intrusion into the FRP. If water is allowed to penetrate the panels it will begin to swell and rot. Check to make sure all your warning decals are in place and readable. We have replacements if you need new ones.

These things are easily overlooked when you are busy in the summer, but now is a opportunity to spend a little extra time before the winter weather arrives.



Derek Sittler—Alpine Service Department.



State of the Union- Alpine Version

As busy as things are in our industry, and we are very grateful for this, the ever-changing global landscape has brought more challenges to the forefront. “The New Normal” as much as I dislike this phrase, is an accurate representation of what we face with the supply chain crunch and our manufacturing scheduling. No longer can we just call our suppliers and have them ship parts right away. It’s not uncommon now to have 200-300 day lead times for component and parts orders. All indications are that this could persist for the next few years. So far, we have been pro-active with inventory levels and predicting needs up to a year out, although there may be some delays that are out of our control. Also, limited chassis allotment has affected our sales volume and as of this newsletter (October 2022), the result is we are booking new truck sale for September ’23. Currently we are seeing a 4-6-week delay for chassis deliveries but hoping that will improve in the months to come.

What does this mean to you our customer? If you are considering a new shred truck purchase in the next 12-18 months, we should have a conversation now. As mentioned, our production is booked solid into the 3rd quarter of next year, so best to look into your crystal ball and hope its clear to forecast your long term needs. If you are requiring parts for service\repair, we should be in good shape to keep your Alpine equipment up and running. Ultimately some chassis and parts have been delayed from the suppliers, but we will do whatever we can to keep everything current and moving forward.

“The Rookie”

I would like to welcome Ryan Blasig to the Alpine engineering team. Ryan will be learning our systems and design from our veterans Peter, Jody & Derek to assist in all future endeavors. We all wish him success. (All he needs to do now is work on his lineup for Fantasy Football!)

All else is good in the Alpine Shredders world and we hope the same for you

Take care and Happy Shredding.

Guy Wakutz - President/Sales Manager