

MEET SHARPENERS REPORT



UNIQUE PULLEY SET-UP FOR CHAINSAW CHAINS
Prevents Tangling 1/2 Loops While Sharpening
by Scott Hester

Since they were designed to manage cuts cut human hair, chainsaws were very small when they were invented in 1785. Subsequently, the invention of the mechanical saw progressed through the lumber business but also for cutting concrete and wood scaping. For optimal performance chainsaws need to be sharpened frequently and are sharpened on a grinder wheel. Grinding 1/2 loops of chainsaw chains is part of Mark and Holly Hester's sharpening business, Superior Sharpening. They've modified a Silver 510 grinder by adding pulleys for the chain and pulleys to keep long chains from tangling during the process.

The 1/2 chains they sharpen are for a giant saw that cuts large rolls of brown kraft paper that are used for making bags, boxes and packaging materials. The kraft paper is the most demanding material for a saw because it is hard, compact, dry and abrasive so it requires sharpening only after cutting as few as 10 paper rolls. They receive 15-20 of the dull chains from a paper company, that require dressing and sharpening before the grinding process. No cleaning is required, although Mark and Holly have created an in-house system for cleaning round chains. The chain is run through the grinder twice since to sharpen the left side cutter, then again to sharpen the right side cutter, one notch at a time, adjusting the pulley to 1/2" on both sides. The depth gauges on the chains must also be ground down periodically to accommodate loss of the round material.

It's actually a boring, dirty job leaving Holly's face covered with black material from paper particles, metal dust and grinding material. Fortunately the grinder needs little maintenance, just grinder wheel replacement. Typically the resin wheel wears down from an 8 inch diameter to 4 inches in diameter after 60-90 chains. Their system is to fill the chain once so they're handling a 1' length and wrapping it with tape in four places and hanging it after they've sharpened.

BEWARE OF CARBIDE DUST - Cobalt-Tungsten Carbide Anticancer To Cause Cancer
by Scott Hester

Sharpeners Report did some digging to find out the latest research on carbide dust, and our News blog at Sharpeners-Report.com offers examples from national health research reports that read and saw sharpeners should know. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released the Cobalt-tungsten carbide to be list. Here's what you can do to arrive at a consistently safe workplace and stay healthy.

The latest time periods medical examinations are recommended for sharpeners who grind carbide saws, tips and tools. That's not new, since Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) have noted for more than a decade that those who are regularly exposed to the material dust may need to take precautions. What is new is that noticeable exposure limits in the U.S. may not adequately protect workers.

As recently as 2011, the National Occupational Safety and Health issued Cobalt-Tungsten Carbide as one of its items added to its Annual Report on Carcinogens. The NIOSH published that Cobalt-Tungsten Carbide is "reasonably anticipated to cause cancer."

That's continued on page 3

Sharpeners Report is a monthly newsletter with a free news blog web site, Sharpeners-Report.com, a [Facebook](#) page, and an E-news bulletin on events for and about sharpening businesses serving beauty salons, barbers, pet groomers, woodworkers, farm communities, industrials and households who need sharp edges to be optimally productive.

The publication was founded in 1981 and has evolved to serve many sectors of the sharpening industry with traditional and social media facets. Subscribers pay for 10 issues a year, and choose digital or printed versions emailed or mailed to them. Advertisers support the trade publication online and in print, and are vendors at the Sharpeners' Workshops and Supply Fair. The next trade show is set for April 16-18 2015 in Hickory, N.C. After that, check our website for upcoming events.

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The Sharpeners Report is published by Creative Lakes Media, LLC, based in Minneapolis with subscribers primarily in the US and Canada, and the trade publication is growing. Now there are readers, and more news on equipment and sharpening features. An E-version of the newsletter was launched in 2012 and now makes up 30 percent of subscriptions. Trade shows every other year draw a great spectrum of vendors and sharpeners coming together for education, networking and equipment investments.

"We now offer DVDs, CDs loaded with back issues, and a bound collection of archived articles that are topic specific, such as The Best of Sharpeners Report on Saw and Tool Sharpening, or Beauty Shear Sharpening, or Clipper Blade Sharpening as well as Lawn & Garden Sharpening," said Judy Brenner, publisher. The 12 pages each month keep things light with a "Sharper Wit" column so readers are welcome to send in humorous blurbs along with helpful shop tips!

Established sharpening businesses and new start-up entrepreneurs go to Sharpeners-Report.com to sign up for a free sample issue, join our E-news community and can place or browse the classified ads for used sharpening equipment. Subscribers get a discount on classified ads. "It's a great way to reach this niche and buy used equipment at discounts, or find a new home for grinding equipment after investing in new CNC machines, or which are part of estate sales," the publisher said. Call 952-406-8870 or email info@sharpenersreport.com for more information.

EQUIPMENT UPDATE - AS SEEN AT AWFS

At the AWFS, for Woodworking and Furniture Show Fair held in Las Vegas, several ISKA associate member companies displayed new equipment. After more than 2 years of work and testing, equipment, I did attend the NIOSH grant grinding machine from Switzerland. It's a compact 5 axis CNC spiral router for grinder.

They also displayed the CHD270 top and face machine for carbide tipped saw blades, the CF200 top and face machine for carbide tipped saw blades, and the Lench Solution K350 for HSS saw blades.

Even before the show, readers have been buying 'WJ' Dorian, St. Louis, just installed 40 2nd Lench K350 710 cold saw sharpening machine in Italy.

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starting with a 40 grit abrasive to rough them if they were really dull or chipped, and then finished them on the 150 abrasive belt sander. Each bit took about 2-3 minutes. Glen sharpens anywhere from 200 to 300 bits per month, on average. "The combs provide accuracy. What's a nice good three-handing bit, this takes all guess work out of the process. I'd get the machine for a break even point of 3 years or more." The Windsor-Matic has a 12-80 grit Dorian grinding wheel. It can use a 40 grit which is coarse enough to get chips out in a hurry, and the 80 grit is great for finishing.

SHARPER WIT

Changing names: An attendee at the Sharpeners Report trade show had a first initial before his name. I asked why he goes by his middle name. "Years ago, my name, asked me if I had a middle name. She liked it better, and agreed to marry me if I went by it. I asked him what his calls her. "My EA." ▲

"This is a machine that will allow all sizes of saw shops to get into the spiral grinding market," said Rob Kraus. You can see a video on it at: <http://www.equipment4u.com/new-products.htm>. The company also exhibited a new 4 Axis CNC HSS saw grinder for cold saws.

Colonial Saw debuts its CNC Automatic Face and Top Grinder, the ABM CNC-HU, which runs \$54,000. It has a 6" CNC axis grid, with all common tooth geometries in one revolution.

Moons Saw Shop Supplies Inc. showed the Nova 32, CNC Top & Face Sharpener and a Tain 74 Axis Face.

Vollmer introduced the QXD250 erosion machine for PCD tooling.

Glen Martin of Martin's Sharpening Service in Ephrata, PA, just bought a used Windsor-Matic drill grinding machine made by Getzlings & Lenz, from DR Machines. Glen had been sharpening drill bits on a used belt for years.

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