



elehandler manufacturers lav out the types of maintenance rental companies should be performing on their fleets.

Performing scheduled maintenance on telehandlers reduces wear on machines and their components and systems. It also helps rental companies identify small, easily repaired issues before they result in downtime for the unit—and unhappy customers.

Here, telehandler manufacturers further describe why maintenance on this machinery is so important and detail what items need to be checked off.



DAILY OR AS NEFDED:

Rental companies should inspect the machines upon return and before renting them out again.

Some daily maintenance tasks such as prestart inspections may be up to the end user to perform, and rental companies should communicate expectations with the customer. Those maintenance items can be partly determined by how long the telehandler is scheduled to be on rent, but also by any items that may be found in daily inspections.

Rental companies can also rely on their prescribed system for keeping track of maintenance such as telematics software in advanced cases or an Excel spreadsheet in simple cases.

In addition to customers performing necessary upcoming maintenance, rental companies should recommend that their end customers walk around and inspect the machine prior to each day's use to ensure there are no major wear points, damage, leaks or other safety concerns. It's important to check engine oil levels, hydraulic fluid, tires, wheel nuts and to keep an eye out for any loose or broken parts. Operators should also lubricate the cylinder rod, pivot pins and wedges as needed.



Keeping telehandlers clean will also prevent debris or dirt from getting clogged in the machine. Finally, operators should pay equally close attention to the attachments being used with the telehandler as attachments can also accumulate wear and tear and should only be used if functioning properly.



TELEHANDLER TIDBITS CONTINUED...

MAINTENANCE ITEMS

QUARTERLY OR ANNUALLY:

Based on the age of the machine, rental companies may need to replace batteries, wear pads or tires. A visual inspection should help determine what needs to be replaced.

Monitoring the height of the wear pads and replacing them when they reach the prescribed mark is an inexpensive way to keep the telehandler boom telescoping in and out smoothly. If this maintenance task is neglected, metal-on-metal contact inside of the boom will occur, which can cause structural boom damage, puts stress on the hydraulic system and can lead to catastrophic failure and lengthy downtime.

That said, the preventive maintenance cost to replace wear pads is orders of magnitude less than replacing a damaged boom structure.

Machine hours will determine other tasks, especially when it comes to the engine, fluids and filters. A telehandler's fuel filter, engine oil and oil filter should be serviced after its first 50 hours of use and then as scheduled.

Other ongoing maintenance can include checking and tightening wheel nuts to correct torque, servicing planetary carriers and replacing the fluid, checking axle and differential fluid, checking the reduction box fluid and alternator belt tension and monitoring air filters and systems, the engine oil and filter and belts.

Some telehandler manufacturers may also call for regular service every 500 hours. Consult the operator's manual for more information on when those tasks should be performed on each machine.

Keep in mind that several telehandler manufacturers have designed their machines to make access to service points seamless for maintenance personnel.

Additionally, parts manuals from the manufacturer can help ensure rental companies are using the same parts intended by the manufacturer, making communication easier if there is an issue.

Operators should also clean debris from the:

- Radiator -
- Air cooler —
- Hvdraulic fluid cooler -
- Air conditioning condenser

Operators should lubricate the:

- Lift cylinder
- 2. Boom pivot
- 3. Front and rear axle oscillation
- Other components as prescribed in the service schedule





TELEHANDLER TIDBITS CONTINUED...

KEEP TRACK

In addition to adhering to prescribed maintenance intervals, telematics can help rental company fleet managers and service managers maximize efficiency and minimize downtime.

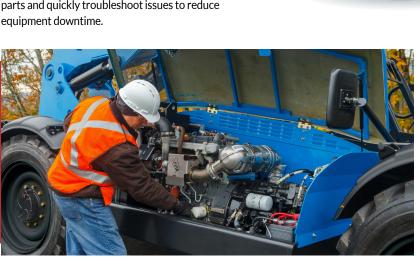
Service managers can remotely diagnose equipment that is out on rent, view upcoming maintenance needs to plan for service while the unit is off rent and see alerts on the dashboard.

Several telehandlers will report basic data like machine hours, location and fuel level.

Fleet managers and service managers can make use of additional information coming off the engine, such as temperature and water in fuel, to further diagnose issues.

Data coming from the equipment is updated frequently, so fleet and service managers can use this information to efficiently use their resources to predict failures or prescribe maintenance based on how the equipment is being used in the field.

Overall, using digital information systems instead of manual techniques allows rental companies to identify potential issues quickly so they can proactively schedule important maintenance, order parts and quickly troubleshoot issues to reduce equipment downtime.







SOURCES:

Ed Sampson, Technical Adviser **Applied Machinery Sales**

Danny Oueini, Technical Adviser Applied Machinery Sales

Amalija Kopac, Product Manager, Telehandlers Genie

Carly Renoudet, Product Manager, Telematics and Digital Services Genie

Drew Kolo, Marketing Manager Bobcat Co.





AC Business Media is a leading business-to-business media and business intelligence company with a portfolio of renowned brands in heavy construction, asphalt, concrete, paving, rental, sustainability, landscape, manufacturing, logistics and supply chain markets. AC Business Media delivers relevant, cutting edge content to its audiences through its industry-leading digital properties, trade shows, videos, magazines, webinars and newsletters. It also provides advertisers the analytics, data and ability to reach their target audience.

