

Good mechanics know that there is a "right tool" for every job. You would not use a steel hammer to remove a bolt from a gearbox, because the right tool would fit the head of the bolt. If the wrong tool is used to remove or install something, then you would end up causing more damage than the repairs made.

Many of the tools used on Power Climber traction hoists are standard or metric sizes. They can be purchased from many different vendors. These tools can be purchased in varying design and quality. Some vendors have lifetime warranties that can actually save you money over the length of your career.

If you were to purchase low quality, inexpensive tools, you may have to replace them more often, which could cost you more money over time. Tools that are not designed for industrial day to day use may not be the best purchase. Although some mechanics do choose to purchase lower quality tools for field use, their shop tools are generally of higher quality. If a low cost tool is stolen on a jobsite, the loss is not so hard to endure. Jobsite theft is an ever present problem as not all people respect the fact that a mechanic earns his livelihood with his tools. A mechanic without tools is not a mechanic.

In the shop, I suggest that all mechanics make an investment in quality tools. Consider purchasing tools from the tool trucks that visit your shop on a regular basis. Many of these trucks will extend you a certain level of credit without charging interest. You are then allowed to pay on a weekly basis or whenever you get paid. Talk with your tool truck salesperson for more details.

When purchasing tools from the tool trucks you will pay more for their brand name, convenience of credit without interest, and the excellent lifetime warranty that most of their tools have. These trucks are independently owned and operated and the operator does not get a paycheck unless his customers make their payments. Therefore as long as you are on time with your payments you can grow a great relationship with this operator. This relationship could really help you out at times.

Some department stores offer tools with a lifetime warranty as well. However you need to make sure that this warranty is not void if you use the tools for work.

Depending on your tax situation, you may be able to write off a portion or all of your yearly tool budget. Check with the person who prepares your taxes for more information.

- Tools are an investment
- Quality tools are usually the best investment
- Low cost tools may have a place in your toolbox
- Check out the warranty on all tool purchases
- Electrical tools generally have a different warranty than hand tools.
- Tool trucks can offer finance plans without interest charges
- Tools can be a write-off on your taxes, save those receipts.

## Specialty Tools

Although most of the tools used on a Power Climber traction hoist are either metric or standard sizes, there are a few specialty tools. Specialty tools may be items like a drive punch used to remove roll pins, or an oil seal driver. These type of specialty tools can make certain jobs much easier and can be purchased from most tool vendors.

Some specialty tools are manufactured by Power Climber for a minimal cost. Tools like this would include sheave gauges that measure sheave wear, spring tool for the E-52 hoist and an air motor rebuild tool.

There are some tools inside of the parts breakdown manuals for each hoist that can be made at your location. When these tools are discussed in our parts manuals, they generally include the complete details so that you can make them. Many of the Power Climber mechanics around the country make some specialty tools as needed.

If you have a specialty tool that you think could help other mechanics, please send the details to Customer Service at Power Climber. Or if you have any questions about what specialty tools that Power Climber can supply, just call.

## Tips and Tricks

- Use WD-40 on the set screw of the motor fan to help get it out.
- When tearing down a hoist it can be a helpful organization tool to begin with an empty box. All the parts that you remove go into the box. When you reassemble the hoist, pulling parts from the box, the only parts left over should be those that you replaced. Now you can do your paperwork by recording these parts only.

For questions or comments, contact Customer Service at 1-800-560-CLIMB (2546) or [customerservice@safeworks.com](mailto:customerservice@safeworks.com).