

HOW TO EXTEND THE LIFE OF AN UNDERCARRIAGE

The most expensive part on a tracked dozer or excavator is the undercarriage, representing 50% of the machine's owning and operating costs. Proper use of the machine can extend the life of the undercarriage.

Limit side hill operation. It can accelerate wear on links on one side.

Avoid unnecessary reverse operation. It wears bushings and sprockets.

Check track alignment. When tracks are not properly aligned it can cause component wear.

Minimize sharp turns and counter-rotations. These maneuvers stress tracks from brake use on one or other side.

Slipping track can cause premature wear on components and track itself. It also reduces production and increases fuel consumption.

Keep correct track tension. Adjust and test track tension as needed. Tight tracks can increase wear on bushings, sprockets, links, and idlers. Too tight of tracks can increase wear and strain.

Choose correct shoes to fit job. Using wrong shoe width can increase wear and strain on links, pins and bushings.

Keep undercarriage clean. Materials and debris can build up, especially in certain climates and types of material machine is working in.

Avoid high-speed tracking. It elevates track temperatures too high and causes premature wear.

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