



Pella Concrete Contractors (PCC) Pella, Iowa

Pella Concrete Contractors (PCC) is a full service contractor providing commercial/industrial and residential service along with site preparation and concrete pumping. PCC was founded in 1967 by Nelson Bogaard and is now owned and operated by his sons Randy and Mike.

The story

PCC has always kept detailed maintenance and oil analysis records on all their equipment. On their tracked loaders, they were seeing high levels of copper in the hydraulic oil.

Generally, anything above 50 parts per million (ppm) of copper in the hydraulic fluid is considered higher than normal. At that level, the oil lab would recommend changing the oil and filter.

PCC's track loader unit #16A calls for 10W-30 motor oil in the hydraulic system. When PCC was using Kendall 10W-30, the oil analysis would always come back with high copper levels, usually in the severe range between 115-196 ppm.

In January 2015, PCC started using Schaeffer's 10W-30 in the hydraulic system of unit #16A; the unit had around 2000 total hours. Since then, five hydraulic oil samples have been sent to the lab.

Reduces copper wear metal levels, reduces service labor hours in half

The first sample, tested after 238 hours on Schaeffer's Oil, was in the caution range with copper levels at 74 ppm. The following four samples showed copper levels in the normal range (31-36 ppm).

Maintenance Supervisor Bill Greatbatch says they're happy with the Schaeffer products they use, especially the hydraulic oils.

"Less wear metals means less wear and longer equipment life. We have doubled our service intervals on everything, from our small gasoline powered equipment to our diesel trucks and heavy equipment," says Bill. "Measured on a year-over-year basis, we have cut our labor hours to service equipment in half since switching to Schaeffer's. This has given us more time for repair work and other projects."

PCC has been using Schaeffer's products since 2013. Other products they use include engine oil, gas and diesel fuel additives, hydraulic oils, grease, gear lubes, transmission fluids, Penetro 90® and Citrol®.